

Skills for Living

Frances Baynor Parnell



by
Yvonne Gentzler, Ph.D
Liz Romero, Ph.D.

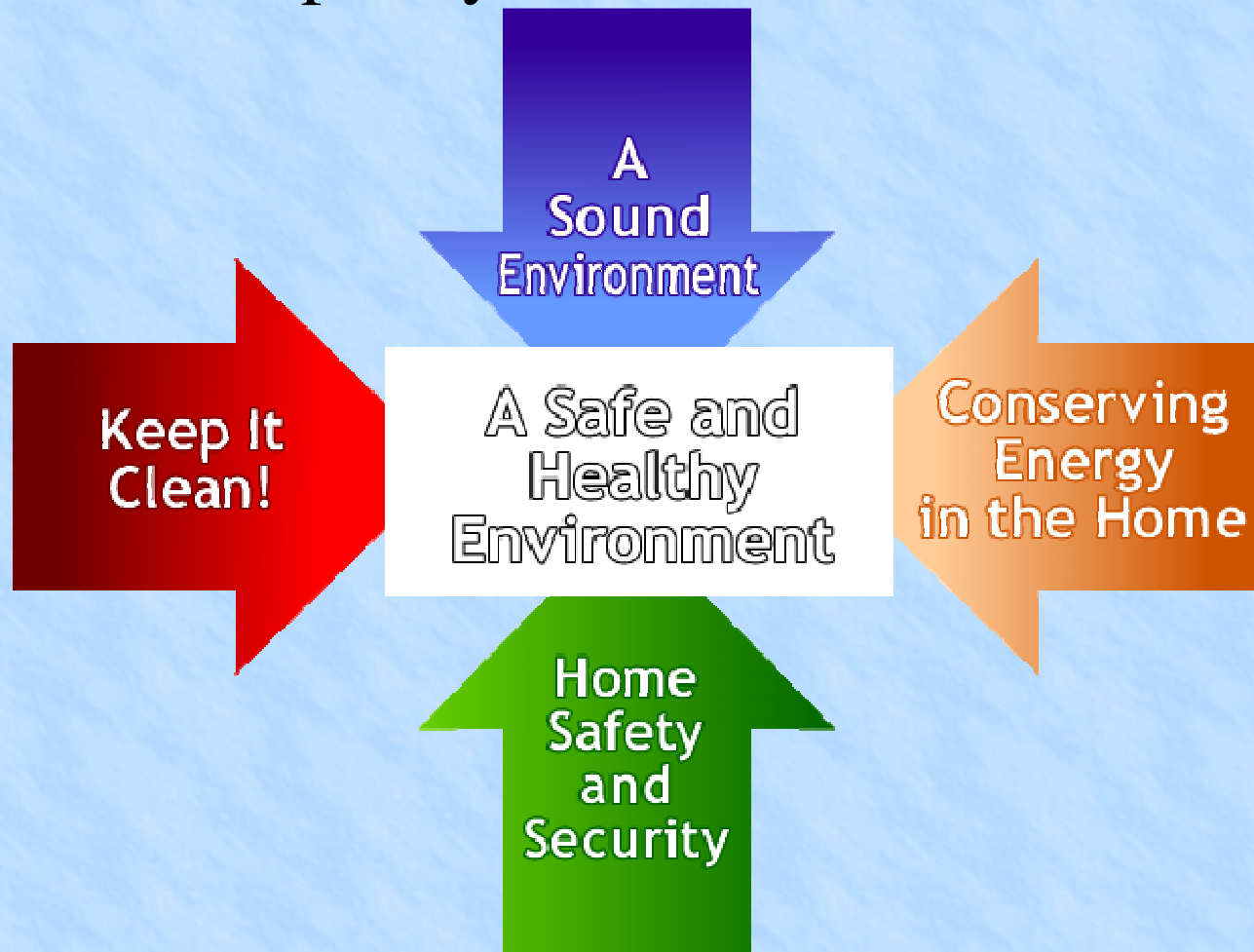


Goodheart-Willcox Co., Inc.
Tinley Park, Illinois

Chapter 25

A Safe and Healthful Environment

- In this chapter, you will learn



Topic 25-1

Home Safety and Security

- In this topic, you will learn about making your home safe and secure, as well as
 - ❖ Preventing accidents in the home
 - ❖ Providing for security
 - ❖ Emergency procedures

Home Safety and Security

Objectives for Topic 25-1

After this topic, you will be able to

- explain how to prevent accidents in the home
- identify ways to provide for personal security
- describe basic emergency procedures

Topic 25-1 Terms

❖ accident

Preventing Accidents in the Home

- **Accidents** are unexpected events that cause losses, injuries, or sometimes death
- Causes of accidents include
 - ❖ human error
 - ❖ safety hazards



Falls

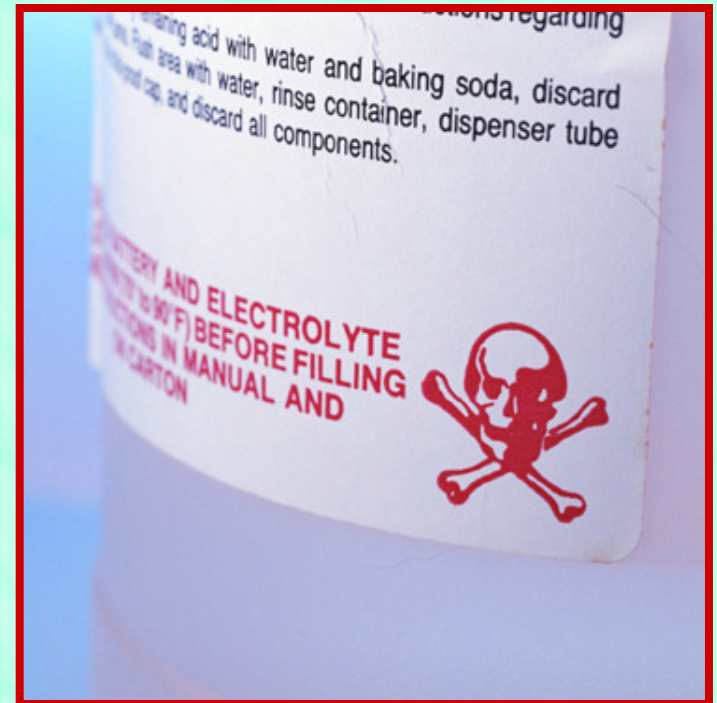
- Look for and remove obstacles
- Wipe up spills
- Use steady ladders and step stools to reach high places
- Use nonskid rugs
- Use nonskid strips in bathtubs and showers
- Avoid walking on wet floors and slippery surfaces
- Keep outdoor walkways clear

Fires

- Kitchen safety—keep items away from hot cooktops and burners; protect yourself from accidental burns
- Electrical hazards—use safe plugs and cords; don't run cords or wires under carpets
- Flammable chemicals and heating equipment—store flammable chemicals safely; use heating equipment carefully
- Fire safety precautions—install smoke detectors and develop an emergency escape plan

Poisoning

- Store all poisonous chemicals out of children's reach or in locked cabinets
- Store chemicals in their original, properly labeled containers
- Never store chemicals that could be mistaken for food products in the kitchen
- Read labels carefully before taking medications



Electric Shock



- Cover unused outlets with safety covers
- Keep electrical appliances in good repair
- Keep electrical appliances away from water sources

Did You Know

- In 2004, fire killed more Americans than all the natural disasters from that year combined
- Property losses due to fires were approximately \$98 billion

Source: US Fire Administration

Providing for Security

- Home break-ins and criminal attacks can happen anywhere at any time
 - ❖ in your home
 - ❖ in your neighborhood
 - ❖ away from home



In Your Home

- Identify security hazards that might make your home an easy target
 - ❖ Conduct a home security inspection
 - ❖ Make the home secure
 - ❖ Protect yourself when you are alone

In Your Neighborhood

- Organize or join a neighborhood watch group
- Watch for people you don't recognize
- Report suspicious behavior immediately

Away from Home

- As you walk
 - ❖ avoid walking alone
 - ❖ walk at a steady pace
 - ❖ avoid drawing attention to yourself
 - ❖ avoid deserted and unsafe areas
- In your car
 - ❖ have keys ready to open the door quickly
 - ❖ keep doors locked
 - ❖ park in well-lighted areas

Emergency Procedures

- An *emergency* is an unexpected event that requires immediate action
 - ❖ Remain as calm as possible
 - ❖ Get medical assistance by dialing 911
 - ❖ Give the location of the accident
 - ❖ Explain what happened, what seems to be wrong, and what first aid is being given
 - ❖ Don't hang up until the dispatcher hangs up

Summary for Topic 25-1

- Accidents and criminal attacks can threaten your safety and security
- To keep accidents and criminal attacks from happening to you at home or away from home, you need to identify and eliminate hazards