



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 20, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Intermediate School District Superintendents

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D., *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Recall of Certain Manipulatives in the BDI-2TM Testing Kit

We have been notified by Riverside Publishing that certain manipulatives in the Battelle Developmental Inventory Kits have been recalled because they may contain lead. The kits were distributed by the Office of Early Childhood Education and Family Services to Intermediate School District (ISD) special education personnel for use with preschool children to meet the child outcomes data collection requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 2004. Please review the attached letter from Riverside Publishing for instructions on which items should be discarded, and how to receive replacement items. Riverside has been notified that ISD personnel will be contacting the company directly for the replacement items.

If you have questions about this issue, please contact William Rowan in the Office of Early Childhood Education and Family Services at (517) 373-8483 or at rowanw@michigan.gov.

Attachment

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RIVERSIDE PUBLISHING

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608 W. Allegan, PO Box 30008
Lansing, MI 48909

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Rolling Meadows IL 60008
phone 800-323-9540
www.riversidepublishing.com

Dear Mr. Rowan:

Riverside Publishing has learned that certain manipulatives in the BDI-2™ testing kit may contain the presence of lead. The manipulatives involved are the red cup, flashlight, and tape measure that were contained in kits purchased prior to November 5, 2007. These manipulatives will be replaced at no charge pursuant to a voluntary plan recently announced by The Riverside Publishing Company.

To obtain the replacement items for these manipulatives, please contact Christina Kowalczyk at 800.323.9540 x 6360 or Christina_Kowalczyk@hmco.com. Christina will work with you to facilitate shipment and distribution. After you receive your replacement items, please dispose of your old red cup, flashlight and tape measure in accordance with the applicable laws in your area.

In order to determine which manipulatives should be discarded, consult the chart below.

Identifying Marks for OLD Manipulatives that Should Be Discarded
OLD Red Cup - Bottom of cup includes the words "Dishwasher Safe."
OLD Flashlight - Plastic ends are yellow.
OLD Tape Measure - Both sides are the same color (can be blue, yellow, pink, white, or green).

The new manipulatives that will be sent to you will have the identifying marks set forth in the chart below:

Identifying Marks for NEW Replacement Manipulatives
NEW Red Cup - Bottom of cup does not include the words "Dishwasher Safe."
NEW Flashlight - Plastic ends are red.
NEW Tape Measure - One side is blue; the other side is yellow.



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The safety and quality of the products we sell are of paramount importance to The Riverside Publishing Company. In light of recent product safety issues in the toy industry, we have been reviewing our product quality policies and procedures to confirm that our vendors are exercising appropriate care to ensure the safety of the products and materials they provide to us. We require the companies that provide the manipulatives we sell and the suppliers of raw materials used in manufacturing our manipulatives to meet or exceed all applicable state, federal, and international laws and regulations and to provide certification of compliance.

Riverside has not received any reports of injuries in connection with these manipulatives. We regret any inconvenience that may have been caused by this replacement action. Thank you for your continued support of the Riverside Publishing family of products and services.

Sincerely,

Linda Hunt McClary
Legal Compliance Manager