

Place plastic guards over electrical outlets; place furniture in front of outlets.

Keep hanging tablecloths out of reach (child may pull down hot liquids or heavy or sharp objects).

*Information on many items such as cribs or walkers is available from US Consumer Product Safety Commission, 800-638-2772; <http://www.cpsc.gov/>.

Safety Promotion and Injury Prevention

Injuries are a major cause of death during infancy, especially for children 6 to 12 months old. The three leading cause of accidental death injury in infants were suffocation, motor vehicle–related injuries, and drowning ([Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012a](#)). During the years 2000 to 2009, unintentional infant suffocation death rates increased by 54% ([Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012a](#)). For the years 2010 to 2011, unintentional injuries (accidents) were the leading cause of death in children 1 to 4 years old, whereas accidents were the fifth leading cause of death in infants from birth to 12 months old ([Hamilton, Hoyert, Martin, et al, 2013](#)). Fall-related injuries were the most common cause of unintentional injuries resulting in emergency department visits among infants 0 to 12 months old with 59% of the emergency department visits attributed to this cause ([Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012b](#)). In a study of infants treated for accidents, causes of injuries included beds, car seats, and stairs ([Mack, Gilchrist, and Ballesteros, 2008](#)). According to a recent Cochrane study, one third of all injuries occur in the home, yet there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that modification of the home environment has an impact on the rate of injuries ([Turner, Arthur, Lyons, et al, 2011](#)). Constant vigilance, awareness, and supervision are essential as children gain increased locomotor and manipulative skills that are coupled with an insatiable curiosity about the environment. [Box 9-1](#) lists the major developmental achievements of each period during infancy and the appropriate injury prevention plan. [Table 9-2](#) lists common types of injuries and associated objects that predispose to such injuries. Suggestions for