

Grape ivy

Jade plant

Piggyback plant

Poinsettia[†]

Prayer plant

Rose

Rubber tree

Snake plant

Spider plant

Swedish ivy

Wax plant

Weeping fig

Zebra plant

*Eating one or two berries or leaves is probably nontoxic.

†Mildly toxic if ingested in massive quantities.

The developmental characteristics of young children predispose them to poisoning by ingestion. Infants and toddlers explore their environment through oral experimentation. Because their sense of taste is not discriminating at this age, they ingest many unpalatable substances. In addition, toddlers and preschoolers are developing autonomy and initiative, which increases their curiosity and noncompliant behavior. Imitation is also a powerful motivator, especially when combined with a lack of awareness of danger.

This section is primarily concerned with the immediate emergency treatment of ingestion of injurious agents. [Box 13-2](#) summarizes specific management of corrosive, hydrocarbon,