Pretty Poisons***

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**Introduction:**
Many products in our homes can look like candy or something to drink, but they can be poisonous if used in the wrong way, in the wrong amount, or by the wrong person. A poison is something that if you eat, smell, taste, or touch, can make you sick or even kill you. It’s important to ask an adult if you don’t know what something is or tell them when you see something poisonous sitting out.

**Before the Meeting:**
Print one set of “Look-a-Likes” cards for every two children. It is best if they are in color so that similarities are easier to recognize. The cards can be cut in advance, or the kids can use scissors to make a set with their partner.

Print a copy of each food or drink with its dangerous look-a-like. **Note to Volunteer:** Actual household products in unlabeled containers can also be used. Because of the risk of accidental ingestion, be sure to mark all of them with “Do Not Eat/Drink.”

**Activity:**
Show each food or drink with its dangerous look-a-like. Explain that sometimes poisonous things in our house can look pretty or like something we want to eat or drink. Ask questions and encourage them to share if they have ever seen or had any of the items at home. Then break up children into pairs or groups of three to play the matching game.

**Matching Game:**
With all 16 cards facing down, children take turns picking two cards, looking to see if they match. If the two cards do not match or look-a-like, then the next child takes a turn. The child keeps a pair if the two cards picked-up match and he/she can correctly identify which is the poisonous one. Players will continue until all cards are paired.

**Questions You Might Ask:**
*Do you always know if something is poisonous just by looking at it? How can you find out?*
No; ask an adult

*Why might someone think something is a drink or candy when it is not?*
If he/she cannot read the label

*What do you do when someone eats or drinks something poisonous?*
Call the poison control center (1-800-222-1222).

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Grape Juice

Cold Medicine

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Mouse Poison

Breath Mint
Gummy Bears   Gummy Vitamins
Skittles  Decongestant