KEEPING OUTDOOR PLAY SAFE:

Simple Steps to Reduce Lead Exposure from Soil
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Frequent outdoor playtime is a very important part of a healthy childhood, especially in the city. But did you know that high levels of lead have been found in Greenpoint’s soil?

Preliminary results reveal that 94% of tested backyard spaces and 14% of sampled park soils sampled have lead levels at or above the legal threshold for bare soil.¹

Lead is a neurotoxin that can enter a child’s bloodstream when eating or inhaling dirt or dust. Young children who tend to put things in their mouth are especially at risk.

There is no need to reduce your child’s time outdoors, instead follow these simple steps:

1. Avoid eating dirt; keep pacifiers and teething toys clean.
2. Wash your child’s hands frequently during and after outdoor play, especially before eating.
3. Avoid play on bare patches of soil near walls and fences; playing in grass and mulch covered areas is safer.
4. Remove shoes before entering your apartment.
5. Leave outdoor toys outside.
6. Change clothes after playing outside.
7. If you have a dog, wipe paws and fur before coming inside.
8. Learn more about the level of lead in your local area:
9. For more tips on avoiding lead poisoning both indoors and outdoors look here:
   https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/infographic.htm
10. Get your soil tested!