Plastic Dangers

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Last week, Parents got a warning about baby bottles.

A chemical called "bisphenol-a," when heated, can leach into the liquid inside the bottle.

University of Cincinnati researcher Shuk-mei Ho tells us the danger isn't just with bottles, it's with "all" plastics. She says it can lead to reproductive problems, prostate cancer, breast cancer, even behavior problems in children.

What to do -- get the food "out" of the plastic.

"Basically, the ideal situation would be transferring the content into something more safe like glass, ceramics that are safe."

Some other tips from Dr. Ho --

Handwash your plastic dishes more often than you use the dishwasher. The high heat in the dishwasher can also cause chemicals to leach.
And if it's baby bottles that you're heating, use warm water, not the microwave.

Also, toss out bottles if you notice the plastic is warm or scratched. The bottles are not meant to be passed on from child to child.

Dr. Ho says young children are particularly vulnerable to the bisphenol-a dangers because they are still going through important developmental stages.

Contact Carol Williams
E-mail cwilliams@wcpo.com
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