





Hidden in Plain Sight (HIPS)

Hidden in Plain Sight* is a virtual mock bedroom designed to help parents recognize how everyday household items can be used to hide or use drugs. This document lists household items featured in the mock bedroom, allowing parents to identify potential warning signs of drug use. If you're concerned about your child, reach out to a school counselor, pediatrician, or local prevention resource.

For more information, visit santaclarita.gov/resources.

**Hidden in Plain Sight was developed by the Southern Providence County Regional Prevention Coalition in Rhode Island. The City of Santa Clarita's Parenting for Prevention Program is making this resource available to the community.*

	<p>Air Freshener/Fabric Refresher:</p> <p>Teens may use air fresheners, candles, or sprays to hide the smell of drugs, smoking, and other substances. Some people misuse aerosols as inhalants.</p>
	<p>Asthma Inhaler:</p> <p>Some teens use inhalers excessively to experience a “high” from albuterol, which can occur when taken in higher-than-prescribed doses. Some vapes resemble inhalers.</p>
	<p>Blunts & Blunt Wrappers:</p> <p>A blunt is a cigar with the tobacco removed and replaced by marijuana, resembling a standard cigar.</p>
	<p>Bracelet:</p> <p>Some bracelets double as small hidden flasks for alcohol.</p>

**Cell phones & laptops:**

Device history, apps, and messages can reveal if a teen is buying, selling, or accessing drugs or other illegal items.

**Cough Medicine:**

Cough syrups with DXM can cause a high if taken in large doses and generally don't show up on drug tests. DXM is also in cold/cough medications. When mixed with soda, it's known as "robo-tripping" or "skittling."

**Decorative Bong:**

Bongs can be designed as décor or art pieces, making them less noticeable. They are available in various textures and sizes, often resembling artwork.

**Electronic Cigarettes & Vapes:**

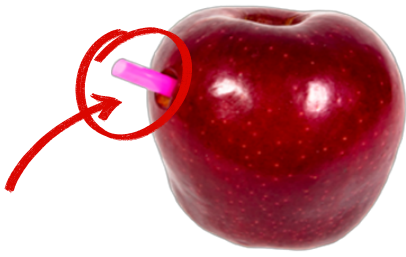
Many vapes look like USB drives, pens, highlighters, or inhalers. They are used to vape nicotine, marijuana oil, or synthetic drugs and are easy to hide. E-Cigs and vapes produce aerosols which are extremely harmful to your health.

**Energy Drink or Soda Cans:**

Some cans unscrew to hide drugs. Empty cans are also used to smoke marijuana. Energy drinks mixed with alcohol can intensify intoxication.

**Eyedrops:**

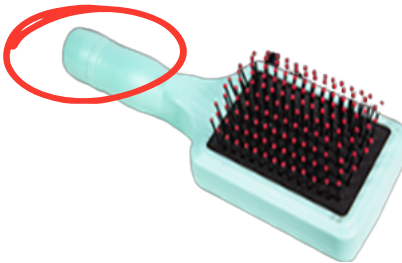
Often used to hide red eyes caused by marijuana, alcohol, or other drug use.

**Fruit with Holes:**

Items like apples or potatoes can be carved into makeshift pipes for smoking marijuana.

**Marijuana Stickers (“Good Vibes”):**

Stickers or decals can indicate interest or involvement in marijuana culture.

**Hairbrush Flask:**

A seemingly ordinary hairbrush designed to secretly hold alcohol.

**Hat with Hidden Pocket:**

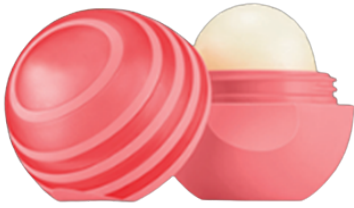
Some hats have hidden compartments inside the headband for storing drugs.

**Hollowed-Out Books or Containers:**

Books, tissue boxes, remotes, and similar items can be hollowed to conceal substances or pills.

**Laptop with Juul Charger:**

A Juul charger looks like a simple USB flash drive, making vaping easy to conceal.

**Lip Balm & Lipstick Containers:**

Hollowed-out tubes can hide marijuana concentrate, small pills, or other drugs.

**Makeup Compact:**

Powder residue can signal drug preparation, while some compacts are hollowed to conceal substances.

**Marijuana Edibles:**

Edibles look like regular snacks, gummies, brownies, candy—but contain THC. Effects can take 1–3 hours, making accidental overuse more likely.

**Markers, Pens, Highlighters, & Duster Cans:**

Markers and pens are hollowed out to store or use drugs. Duster cans can be inhaled to get high which is known as “huffing.”

**Matches & Lighters:**

Common tools for smoking marijuana or other drugs.

**Mouthwash & Mints:**

Often, products like mint tins or mouthwash are used to cover up alcohol or tobacco odors, store pills or drugs, or as substitutes to become intoxicated.

**Nip Bottles:**

Small, inexpensive alcohol bottles that are easy to hide.

**Outlet Covers:**

Some outlet covers can be removed and used as hiding spots for drugs or alcohol.

**Phone Flask:**

A flask designed to look like a phone; it opens to reveal a spout for alcohol.

**Pipes & Grinders:**

Pipes are used to smoke marijuana and other drugs. Grinders break down marijuana buds for rolling or packing.

**Poké Ball Container:**

This ball is made to resemble a toy, but its purpose is to conceal dab oil and may also be used to hide drugs

**Pop Socket with Compartment:**

Some pop sockets have hidden compartments for storing small drug items. Pop sockets are placed on the back of a phone.

**Razor Blade:**

May indicate self-harm or drug preparation (cutting marijuana or cocaine).

**Room Accessories:**

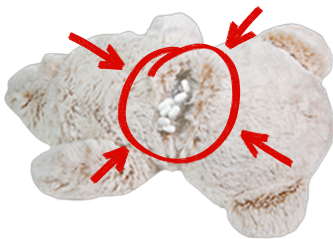
Common bedroom items—lamps, tissue boxes, books, or remote controls—can be used to conceal drugs or alcohol.

**Slushie-Style Vape:**

A vape designed to look like a colorful slushy container can be easily mistaken for candy or a toy and delivers 8,000 puffs.

**Sneakers with Hidden Space:**

Drugs or money can be hidden under the insole. Some shoes are made specifically with secret compartments.

**Stuffed Animals & Throw Pillows:**

Can be modified or used to conceal items.

**Sweatshirt with Vape Drawstring:**

Some hoodies are designed to enable adolescents to vape discreetly through the drawstring without detection.

**Tampons & Packaging:**

Tampons can be soaked in alcohol for intoxication without breathalyzer detection. Some packaging is used to hide drugs because it's rarely searched.

**Trash Cans:**

Trash cans may contain signs of drug use such as burnt foil, drug baggies, or notes referencing “420,” which refers to marijuana.

**Twist Ties:**

Used twist ties can indicate drug baggies that once held marijuana or other substances.

**Wall Hangings:**

Drugs may be concealed behind posters, mirrors, pictures, or fabric hangings.

**Water Bottles & Clear Containers:**

Water bottles can be used to hide clear alcohol like vodka, and some can be turned into homemade bongs for smoking.

See the signs. Start the conversation.
Strong bonds. Safe choices. Brighter futures.