**Santa's top safety tips for Christmas**

**Look for the CE symbol:** This means the manufacturer has assessed the toy for safety. Find the symbol on the label or box.

1. **Check it’s for kids:** Festive novelties can look like toys. Keep them away from kids.
2. **Reputation matters:** Check the suppliers who have a good reputation for safe and reliable toys. They’ll have good safety standards and refund policies.
3. **Button battery safety:**Christmas toys may have button batteries - which can prove lethal if ingested. Check they are screwed in safely before giving to a child.
4. **Check age restrictions:** Toys must be clearly marked with age restrictions, which assess risks such as choking hazards. Always follow the age recommendations.
5. **Consider special needs:**Remember that children with special needs might be more vulnerable, and make sure to shop accordingly.
6. **Choking hazards:** Avoid toys with small parts or loose fabric – they can be a choking hazard.
7. **Loose parts:** Loose ribbons on toys and costumes can be dangerous. Think before you buy.
8. **Inspect toy boxes:** Wear and tear can make a toy unsafe. Check your children’s toys and get them repaired if necessary.
9. **Supervise when you need to:** Some toys need an adult on hand during playtime. Read all the instructions so you can keep things under control.
10. **Tidy up:**Boxes, plastic bags and wire can be a hazard. Clear away all packaging once everything’s unwrapped.
11. **Celebrate a safe Christmas**: Completing these checks can save you a lot of stress later. Remember to get batteries (and dispose of these safely too)!