

Hospital chains toys to beds to stop thieves

14th January, 2015



Fourteen hospitals in Wales have started chaining children's toys and other playthings to beds in an attempt to prevent thieves from stealing them. The Royal Gwent Hospital is using bicycle locks to keep its toys

from being stolen. Dean Beddis, father of a two-year-old who was a patient in the children's ward, said he was appalled that anyone would steal toys from a hospital. He told reporters: "These toys are there for kids who are seriously ill. They're provided by the hospital and people are stealing them. I was shocked to see that a children's toy had a bike lock on it." He added: "I was talking to the nurses about how disgusting it was that they had to do that because they were saying that people had been stealing them."

A hospital spokesman said: "Unfortunately we do get toys and games taken from our hospitals. It is not a regular occurrence but we do encourage staff to secure and lock away the more popular and more expensive items. Our hospitals have CCTV coverage and security on site at all times." He added: "As with any large buildings open to the public, we advise visitors and our own staff to be vigilant with valuables." It is not only toys that are being stolen. The television in the waiting room of the children's ward has also gone missing. Mr Beddis said: "Stealing toys while the hospital staff are looking after their children is a sad reflection on society. I cannot believe this is happening in Britain."

Sources: *WalesOnline / Daily Mirror / BBC*

Writing

All toys should be educational. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

hospitals / playthings / thieves / patient / appalled / seriously ill / nurses / stealing / spokesman / regular / expensive items / CCTV coverage / vigilant / reflection / society

True / False

- Over 10 hospitals in Wales are having problems with toys being stolen. T / F
- One hospital is using bicycle locks to stop toys from being stolen. T / F
- A father told reporters he was shocked a bike lock had been stolen. T / F
- The father thought it was disgusting that nurses had to lock up toys. T / F
- A hospital spokesman denied that toys were being stolen. T / F
- The spokesman said his hospitals had no CCTV systems. T / F
- The article says a television was stolen from a waiting room. T / F
- The father suggested he was not surprised this happened in Britain. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. attempt | a. event |
| 2. prevent | b. urge |
| 3. appalled | c. stop |
| 4. ill | d. on the lookout |
| 5. disgusting | e. horrified |
| 6. occurrence | f. precious items |
| 7. encourage | g. effort |
| 8. vigilant | h. appalling |
| 9. valuables | i. comment |
| 10. reflection | j. sick |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you think about what you read?
- Who would steal toys from a hospital, and why?
- What should happen to the toy thieves?
- How can hospitals stop thieves?
- Do you think the thieves care the toys are for seriously ill kids?
- What would you think if you saw toys in hospitals chained to beds?
- What could hospitals provide for children instead of toys?
- What would you say to one of the toy thieves?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. an attempt to prevent thieves | a. seriously ill |
| 2. using bicycle locks to keep its toys | b. disgusting it was |
| 3. a patient in the | c. expensive items |
| 4. kids who are | d. from stealing them |
| 5. I was talking to the nurses about how | e. valuables |
| 6. It is not a regular | f. children's ward |
| 7. lock away the more popular and more | g. coverage |
| 8. CCTV | h. from being stolen |
| 9. be vigilant with | i. on society |
| 10. a sad reflection | j. occurrence |

Discussion – Student B

- Should hospitals stop providing more expensive toys?
- Should hospitals put security guards in waiting rooms?
- Is CCTV effective if toys are still being stolen?
- How vigilant are you with your valuables?
- What's your favourite toy?
- What would you say to a child about thieves stealing toys?
- What kind of reflection is this story on society?
- What questions would you like to ask the hospital staff?

Spelling

- in an attempt to prevent tsevihe
- a pnetita in the children's ward
- he was laappled that anyone would steal toys
- kids who are osieysulr ill
- I was talking to the nressu
- how sitignsqud
- It is not a regular eoccencurr
- we do enoeacrgu staff
- eruesc and lock away
- CCTV vrgecoae
- be vigilant with alslvaeub
- a sad ielotfencr on society

Answers – Synonym Match

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. g | 2. c | 3. e | 4. j | 5. h |
| 6. a | 7. b | 8. d | 9. f | 10. i |

Role Play

Role A – A ball

You think a ball is the best children's toy. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their toys aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): Lego, an action figure or a PlayStation.

Role B – Lego

You think Lego is the best children's toy. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their toys aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): a ball, an action figure or a PlayStation.

Role C – An action figure

You think an action figure is the best children's toy. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their toys aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): Lego, a ball or a PlayStation.

Role D – A PlayStation

You think a PlayStation is the best children's toy. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their toys aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): Lego, an action figure or a ball.

Speaking – Toy

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| • ball | • action figure |
| • Lego | • Monopoly board game |
| • PlayStation | • toy gun |
| • remote control car | • clay set |

Answers – True False

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | T | b | T | c | F | d | T | e | F | f | F | g | T | h | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.