



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
5 RESEARCH PLACE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Hope Nesteruk
Children's Program Manager
Division of Mechanical Engineering
hnesteruk@cpsc.gov

July 29, 2021

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL

Jennifer King
ASTM Subcommittee Chair, F15.18 Play Yard and Non-Full-Size Cribs
Graco Children's Products Inc.
3880 Landmark Dr.
Douglasville, GA 30135

Re: Play Yards with Zipping Panels

I am writing to alert you to a potential new hazard pattern in play yards. I have attached an in-depth investigation conducted by CPSC staff to investigate a report of a 2-year-old child who became entrapped in the upper portion of a play yard side, which zipped up to connect the sides of the play yard to the frame. According to the consumer, "the zippers are not secured in any way... so the zipper became partially unzipped and my daughter was able to enlarge this opening enough to get her head through."

Children as young as 18 months old display emerging zipper skills, such as pulling tabs and unzipping when the zipper is held taut.¹ In addition, the voluntary standard already addresses side panel disassembly with sewn panel in section 7.8.1.

7.8.1 Sewn Assembly—All stitching that is used in the sides, ends, or floor support and is accessible to the occupant shall be lock-stitching or a chain stitch where the key thread is not accessible to the occupant. The key thread is a thread at the end of a seam that if pulled will pull the stitching apart and disassemble the sewn assembly.







Staff notes that the hazard presented by a zipper panel that becomes unzipped is similar to stitching that comes apart. Therefore, staff recommends that the subcommittee expand the manner in which this hazard is addressed to include mesh panels that attach with methods other than sewing, such as zippers.

Sincerely,

Hope E J. Nesteruk

cc: Jacqueline Campbell, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator.
Molly Lynyak, ASTM

¹ <https://www.lumierechild.com/lumiere-childrens-therapy/2017/11/28/occupational-therapy-conquering-the-zipper>

1. Task Number 210309HCC1551		2. Investigator's ID 2779		EPIDEMIOLOGIC INVESTIGATION REPORT
3. Office Code 800	4. Date of Accident YR MO  2021 02	5. Date Initiated YR MO DAY 2021 03 13		
6. Synopsis of Accident or Complaint UPC A mother placed her two-year-old daughter in a portable crib at home to nap with the crib's mesh covers zipped closed. She later found the mesh unzipped on one side and her child's head caught between the mesh and the crib rail. No injury occurred.				
7. Location (Home, School, etc) 1 - HOME		8. City 		9. State 
10A. First Product 1529 - PORTABLE CRIBS		10B. Trade/Brand Name 		10C. Model Number 
10D. Manufacturer Name and Address 				
11A. Second Product 0		11B. Trade/Brand Name NONE		11C. Model Number NONE
11D. Manufacturer Name and Address NONE				
12A. Hispanic or Latino 2 - No	12B. Race 1 - White Other:		12C. Race Source 1 - Respondent-Self/Fa	
13. Age of Victim 2	14. Sex 2 - Female	15. Disposition 0 - No Injury	16. Injury Diagnosis 71 - Other/NS/No inj	
17. Body Part(s) Involved 75 - HEAD	18. Respondent 1 - Victim/Complainant	19. Type of Investigation 2 - Telephone	20. Time Spent (Operational / Travel) 18.00 / 0.00	
21. Exhibit(s) 9 - Multiple Exhibits		22. Case Source 07 - Consumer Complaint		23. Sample Collection Number
24. Permission to Disclose Name (Non NEISS Cases Only) <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes for Manuf. Only <input checked="" type="radio"/> Verbal <input type="radio"/> Written				
25. Review Date 04/15/2021	26. Reviewed By 9093		27. Regional Office Director Beverly J. Kohen	
28. Distribution Celestine T. Kish; Hope Nesteruk			29. Source Document Number I2120448A	

Incident Summary

On February [REDACTED] 2021, a consumer found her two-year-old daughter's head trapped between the rail and mesh side of a crib. The consumer retained the product pending a refund. No injury or damages occurred and no official reports were filed.

This investigation was initiated based on the consumer's complaint reported to CPSC. The consumer was not available for an onsite visit. The information within this report was obtained from the consumer during telephone calls, emails, and from internet-based research (*Exhibit 1*).

Incident Product Identification

Since the incident product could not be viewed in person, details below are based on information provided by the consumer and from research.

First Product

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Style/Type: Portable travel style crib. The consumer reported the product includes four mesh panels attached to the top rail of the crib via four separate zippers.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Incident Product Analysis

No analysis was performed by CPSC. No other analysis reported.

Pre-Incident

The consumer is an adult woman/mother who lives in a single-family home with her two-year-old daughter. On or about August 1, 2017, the consumer purchased the portable travel crib from an online retailer. No receipt was available. She stated that the product was fully assembled at the time it was received. She stated that she placed the crib in the bedroom unused until her baby

was born in late 2018. According to the consumer, she placed her baby in the crib for naps from the time she was a few months old until the incident in early 2021. She did not report any problems with the crib prior to the incident. The consumer stated that she did not modify or damage the product.

Incident

According to the consumer, during the morning on February [REDACTED] 2021, she placed her daughter in the crib for a nap when later “*my childcare helper found my baby’s head stuck between the mesh side and the rail frame*” (Exhibit 2). No injury was reported. Later that day she viewed the video recording of her house nanny camera and reported “*the problem is that each of the four mesh panels attached to the top rail of the crib via four separate zippers...the zippers are not secured in any way...so the zipper became partially unzipped and my daughter was able to enlarge this opening enough to get her head through...if the zippers were secured in some manner this would be prevented*”.

Post-Incident

On about the same week she reported the incident to the manufacturer. The manufacturer offered no assistance. She did not have a record of the correspondence. The consumer has retained the unit pending a refund. The consumer stated “not to release” her contact information.

Investigator Follow-Up

On April 14, 2021, internet-based research was performed regarding subject manufacturer crib products. No recent recalls were found and no related recalls were found in

[REDACTED]. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sample

No samples were collected. The consumer retained the unit pending a refund.

Exhibits

Exhibit 1: Contact List (one page) [EXCLUDED]

Exhibit 2: Photos of Incident Crib (2.1, 2.2, 2.3) (one page)

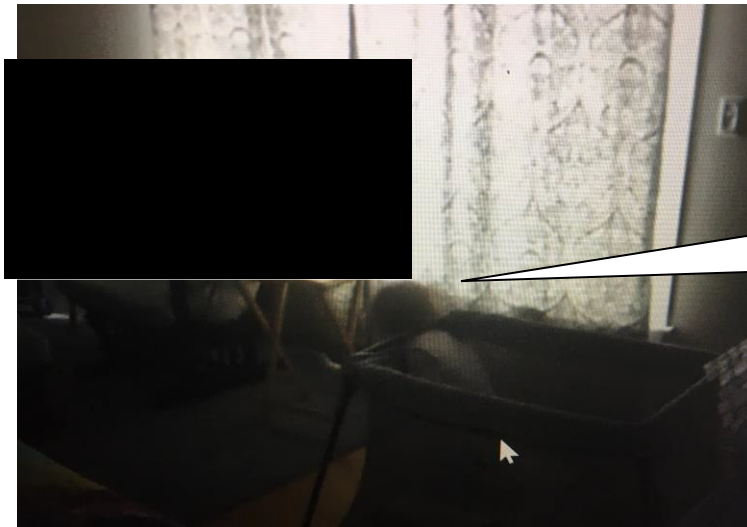
Exhibit 2- Photos of Product *(photos from consumer)*

pg. 1 of 1

Exhibit 2.1 – Overall view of Crib



Exhibit 2.2 – Snapshot of Crib and Incident *(from consumer's video camera)*



Consumer states her child's head got caught between mesh side and the crib rail (when the mesh unzipped).

Exhibit 2.3 – Crib Labeling

