

Mum's first aid...

She comes home from
course - and saves
her daughter's life

A 32-year-old Birmingham woman saved the life of her baby daughter just 30 minutes after returning home from a first aid course.

Mum-of-three Maureen Deal, of Yardley Green Road, Bordesley Green, had spent the morning at the paediatric life-saving course at the Small Heath Pre-School Centre in Talbot Road when she got home to find her 21-month old daughter Rachael choking on a sweet.

Maureen instantly sprang into action and carefully

put all the moves she had learned on the course into practice, first trying to slap her daughter's back to free the sweet and then carrying out chest compressions.

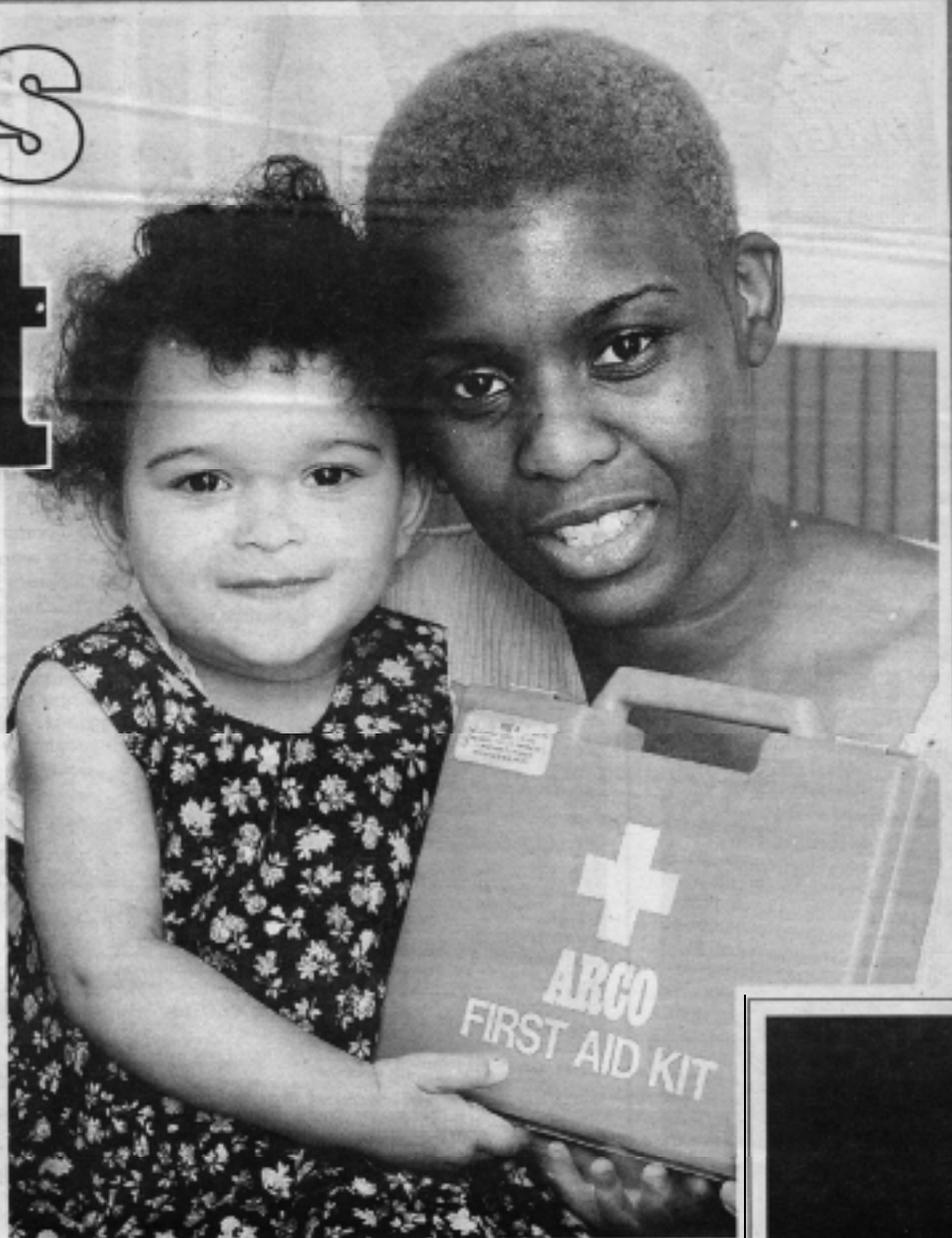
After just a few of these the sweet popped out and Maureen was able to take her daughter to Birmingham Heartlands hospital for a check-up where nursing staff said she had undoubtedly saved Rachael's life.

Maureen said? At first when I saw Rachael choking I started to panic and thought she might die but then I remembered the chest

compressions we had just been shown on the course.

"While I was learning first aid that morning I thought I might never be able to remember what I had learned but I never expected to have to put my new found skills to work straight away."

Stuart Marshall, the course instructor at Marlin Training which had



I MY HERO: Maureen Deal with daughter Rachael, who she saved from choking
Picture: Dale Martin

By Lisa Smith

organised the session, said? I always tell students to let me know if they use their skills in the future but I never expected a call so quickly after a course - I was still unpacking my car when the phone rang!"

Maureen, who has two other daughters, Amy aged eight, and five year-old Lucy, is currently a childminder and plans to open her own nursery soon.

She said "At least I now have the confidence to know I could save a life if I have to I am so glad I did that course."

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