

**PLAY IT
SAFE,
GEORGIA!**

For Parents and Caregivers

FIREARM INJURY PREVENTION

Georgia Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



Why We CARE

- #1** Firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens ages 0-19, **killing 4,752** young people nationally.
- >400** 2023 was the **worst year on record** for unintentional shootings by children, surpassing **400 incidents** for the first time since 2015.
- #8** Georgia is eighth in the nation for unintentional shootings of guns by children. **Children as young as 2 years old have pulled the trigger!**
- 2/DAY** Children or teens under 18 years old shot by a firearm and treated in the ER. **EVERY. SINGLE. DAY.**
- 50%** Of Georgians have a gun in their home. **1 in 3** children live in homes with guns.



How to PLAY IT SAFE

Follow these rules to **Play it TRIPLE Safe** by keeping firearms



- 1 Unloaded.**
- 2 Locked up in a combination lockbox, biometric lockbox, or gun safe.**
- 3 Locked up *separate from* ammunition.**

When To Seek Help

- If your child is injured with a firearm **call 911 immediately.**
- If your child states they would like to harm themselves or others, **call 911** or **Georgia Crisis & Access Line (GCAL)** at **800-715-4225**, available 24/7.
- Call **988 National Suicide Hotline**



Identify the presence of firearms in other homes—play dates, grandparents, babysitters—with this suggested script:

Annie is looking forward to her playdate with Zach. Remember, she is allergic to peanuts!

Got it! 👍

I always ask about firearms wherever my kids go. Do you have a gun in the house?

Yes, we do. It's locked in a safe and the ammunition is locked in a different safe.

Perfect! Thank you. See you at 3!



**IMPORTANT
REMINDER**

Hiding a gun is not enough. Kids are naturally curious. Studies show that they usually know where guns are kept.

PLAY IT SAFE

with poison prevention, burn safety, drowning, and more in the **Georgia AAP Toolkit—gaaap.org/play-it-safe/.**

