

**PLAY IT
SAFE,
GEORGIA!**

For Clinicians

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.

#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!**

64% Of child and teen gun deaths were **homicides. 30% were suicides.**

2/DAY Children or teens under 18 years old treated for a firearm injury in a Georgia ED. **EVERY. SINGLE. DAY.**



How to PLAY IT SAFE

Remind all families to **Play it TRIPLE Safe** by keeping firearms



- 1 Unloaded.**
- 2 Locked up (with combination or biometric locks).**
- 3 Separate from Ammunition.**

Help parents identify **high-risk situations**, and ensure anticipatory guidance is given.

- Kids with ADHD
- Toddlers (Kids as young as 2 years old have pulled the trigger.)
- Teenagers with depression
- Virtually every well-child check



Give them the **Toolkit sheet for Parents and Caregivers**—and point out the sections on **How to Play It Safe, Other Homes, and High-Risk Situations.**

Help parents 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!



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

2023 was the worst year on record for unintentional shootings by children, surpassing 400 incidents for the first time since 2015.

PLAY IT SAFE

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

