

**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 safety, drowning, and more in the **Georgia AAP Toolkit**—[gaaap.org/play-it-safe/](http://gaaap.org/play-it-safe/).

