ATV SAFETY

For Parents and Caregivers

Why We CARE

4 CHILDREN EVERY HOUR are treated for ATV injuries. That's 112,300 injuries associated with ATVs treated in U.S. hospital Emergency Rooms in 2020.

300 children under 16 died in ATV accidents (from 2016 through 2018).

98% of deaths and injuries among ATV riders younger than 16 have occurred when they were on adult-size vehicles.

How to PLAY IT SAFE

The American Academy of Pediatrics states that children under 12 should not be allowed to drive or ride on an ATV. Children 12 to 16 can operate a youth model only. Only children 16 and up can ride an adult model. Helmets are essential. NOTE: No child of any age should be a passenger on an ATV; most are designed for solo riders only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Drive an ATV?</th>
<th>Be a passenger on an ATV?</th>
<th>Needs a helmet?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 6</td>
<td>NEVER</td>
<td>NEVER</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 to 11</td>
<td>NEVER</td>
<td>NEVER</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 to 15</td>
<td>YES but youth models only</td>
<td>NEVER</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 and up</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NEVER</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teach children these rules:

- Wear a DOT-approved ATV or motorcycle helmet every time you ride. (Note: A bicycle helmet is not enough protection.)
- Never be a passenger or ride with a passenger. Most ATVs are made for one person only.
- Do not drive or ride on an ATV without checking with you first. This rule can prevent spur-of-the-moment mistakes and lower the influence of peer pressure.
- Wear protective clothing and gear. Face shield or goggles, long sleeves, long pants, over-the-ankle boots, and gloves. Consider a chest protector if your child will be riding at higher speeds.
- Never ride on public roads or at night.

GET ATV TRAINING

Have your child take a hands-on ATV safety course before they operate an ATV. Professional instructors are trained to cover things a friend or relative, or even you might miss. Check ATVsafty.org or call 800-887-2887 for resources. Planning to ride together? Consider joining the course as a refresher.

CALL 911 FIRST!

If your child is in an accident related to an ATV, call 911—even if they were wearing a helmet or other safety gear and if they seem okay.

PLAY IT SAFE

with poison prevention, safe sleep, firearms, teen driving, and more with the Georgia AAP Toolkit—gaaap.org/new-play-it-safe-injury/.