# N HOT CAR INJURY **PREVENTION**

# **Georgia Chapter**



# Why We CARE

PID YOU Georgia ranked #1 in child vehicular heatstroke deaths in 2022, tying with Texas and North Carolina.

children died of vehicular heatstroke in the U.S. in 2018, a record high. The annual average is 38.

25%

of vehicular heatstroke deaths occur when children have accessed vehicles by themselves.



A child left inside a car can die of heatstroke even when it's only 60°F outside.

## **How to PLAY IT SAFE**

### Never leave children unattended in a vehicle. Ever.

Not with windows open or air-conditioning running or when you'll "only be a minute." Never. A child can die in a hot car in less than 10 minutes.

Here's why. A child's temperature rises three to five times faster than an adult's—and can get dangerously high in minutes. The outdoor temperature may seem comfortable, but inside the car, it gets 20°F hotter in just 10 minutes.

Car temperature	10 minutes later	30 minutes later
70°F	89°F	104°F
75°F	94°F	109°F
80°F	99°F	114°F

When a child's core temperature reaches 107°F, they could die of heatstroke.



#### **CALL 911**

If you see a child unattended in a vehicle, call 911. If the child is in distress or appears unconscious, get them out immediately; breaking a window if necessary. The 911 dispatcher can advise you how to proceed until help arrives.

Signs of heatstroke include hot, flushed skin with NO sweating. Children may have vomiting, diarrhea, confusion, lethargy, or even seizures.

## Safety Habits That Could Save Your Child from Hot Car Death

- Always ask, "Where's Baby?" Make a habit of asking this question every time you exit a vehicle. You can also use "Park. Look. Lock."
- Leave something you need your shoe, phone, purse, etc.-on the back seat so you'll be sure to check the area after parking.



- Pay extra attention if you have a break in routine—a change in the usual driver, a weather delay, a new work schedule, or extra stress.
- Request that the daycare or school call if your child doesn't arrive as expected.
- Lock the car and trunk and lock up the keys-don't just leave them in a coat or handbag. It's not just babies who are at risk, but older kids too. Telling them not to get in the car without you is not enough.



#### **PLAY IT SAFE**

with poison prevention, safe sleep, firearms, teen driving, and more with the Georgia AAP Toolkithttps://www.gaaap.org/new-play-it-



safe-injury/