

FIREARM INJURY PREVENTION



Why We CARE

- #1** Firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens, **killing 4,357** young people (nationally in 2020).
- 4X** Almost fourfold increase in firearm fatalities in children and teens under 18 in Georgia (from 2011 to 2021).
- 64%** Of child and teen gun deaths were **homicides. 30% were suicides.**
- 8/WEEK** Children under 12 years old killed by guns (in 2020). **EVERY. SINGLE. WEEK.**



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!



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, safe sleep, drowning, and more in the **new Georgia AAP Toolkit**—gaaap.org/play-it-safe/.

