



# Children and Firearms

Keeping kids safe around guns

**Gun safety education typically rests solely on a child's parents. Even if you don't have a gun in your home, chances are that someone you know does. Your child could encounter a gun at a neighbor's house or when playing with friends. That is why it is critical for children to know what to do if he or she finds a gun.**



## Teach them to:

1. Stop!
2. Don't Touch
3. Leave the Area
4. Tell an Adult

Encourage children to talk openly about gun safety. This is more effective than just ordering them to stay away from guns because such warnings often stimulates a child's natural curiosity to investigate further. Explain how a gun seen on TV or in a video game is different from a gun in real life. A gun, in real life, can really hurt people.

We respect those who keep guns in their homes, but too many kids have been injured or killed in gun-related accidents, so we need to take extra precautions to educate children on gun safety. Guns should be stored unloaded and inaccessible to children or other unauthorized users. Gun safes and locking devices are a necessity for responsible gun owners.

## For more information contact:

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*Resources: Safe Kids U.S.A, American Academy of Pediatrics, NRA (Eddie Eagle Gun Safe Program).*

