



Prevent Child Abuse Indiana™

A Division of The Villages

A Chartered State Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America



GUN SAFETY

It is estimated that one-third of homes with children have a firearm in the household. It is our responsibility to ensure a child's safety if there is a gun in a home where a child resides.

TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN & THEIR CAREGIVERS



EXPLAIN

Explain how a gun your children might see on television, or a video game is different from a gun in real life.



TOYS VS. REAL

Teach your children the difference between a toy gun and a real one and not to point even a toy at anyone.



NEVER ASSUME

Never assume that just because you told a child to never touch a gun, that it is okay to leave one within reach. Children are too curious, and very young children will not remember that command.



AS YOUNG AS THREE

Children as young as 3 have the strength to squeeze a trigger.



TALK

Talk to grandparents, babysitters, and the parents of friends your children visit about safe gun storage practices.



TEACH

Teach your child that if they find a gun, to immediately tell an adult.

SAFE STORAGE

- ✓ Keep guns in a locked space, unloaded, and out of the reach and sight of children.
- ✓ Keep ammunition in a separate locked area, out of the reach and sight of children and keep keys and/or combinations hidden.
- ✓ If a visitor brings a gun into your home, or keeps it in an unlocked car, provide them with a locked place to store it while they are visiting you.
- ✓ Ensure the chamber is empty before attempting to clean the gun.
- ✓ Older children and teens need to be kept separated from firearms while they are not under the close supervision of an adult. Sometimes a youth believes he or she has expertise in handling a weapon when in fact they do not.
- ✓ Suicide attempts are not always elaborately planned out by youth. They may make the decision in a very short period of time, and having immediate access to a firearm may be seen by that child as very opportunistic.

UNUSED GUN DISPOSAL

If you decide that you no longer need to have a gun in your home, dispose of it in a safe way. Every state has different laws, so consult with law enforcement in your community on how to do so.

ABOUT US

Prevent Child Abuse Indiana is dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect. In doing so, we make Indiana a safer, better place for our children.

Together, prevention is possible.



www.pcaain.org