



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.

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.

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.



AS YOUNG AS THREE

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



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.



TALK

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



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.



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.

GUN SAFETY RESOURCES

- **Protect Your Child, Gun Safety:** www.internetsafety101.org
- **Firearm Safety:** www.pacer.org/bullying/info/cyberbullying/

MORE 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.



INFO AND RESOURCES

For more prevention and parenting information, and resources, visit our website or call **1.800.CHILDREN** (1.800.244.5373)



REPORT CHILD ABUSE

To report child abuse and neglect, please call **1.800.800.5556**



SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS

Help support our statewide efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect by purchasing a Kids First License Plate. Visit your local BMV or www.in.gov/dcs/2456.htm for more info.