

Kids and Guns

Firearm injuries are **Preventable.**



A gun kept in the home is forty-three times more likely to kill someone known to the family than to kill a stranger in self-defense.

20,000 children are taken to emergency departments with **gunshot wounds** each year. Half are discharged with a lasting disability.

In homes with guns, the risk of **suicide** increases five times and the risk of homicide increases three times over the rate of homes with no guns.

American Academy
of Pediatrics



22% of gun owners falsely believe their children have never handled their firearms

- 73% of children under the age of 10 who live in houses with guns know where the guns are - 36% have held them.
- This contradicts what their parents believed.



In use. When using a gun for hunting or target practice, keep the safety catch in place until you are ready to fire it.

Before setting the gun down, always unload it.

As much as a child may want to take a turn shooting, this is not a good idea. No matter how much instruction you may give about how to safely shoot a gun, **children are not capable or responsible enough to handle a potentially lethal weapon.**

Safe storage. All guns in your home should be locked and unloaded, with ammunition locked separately. Make sure children and teens can't access the keys or combinations to lock boxes or gun safes. And remember not to keep loaded, unlocked guns in the car, either.