

Simple conversations and secure storage

SAVE LIVES

Talk to your kids about firearm safety, just like fire drills or food allergies.
Repeat the rules so they know what to do.



What do I tell **my young child**?

- "If you see a gun, don't touch it. Tell an adult right away."
- "Do not touch a gun, even if it looks like a toy."

At this age, securely storing firearms is especially important.



What do I tell **my teen**?

- "Immediately leave any situation where an unsecured gun is present."
- "Do not listen to a friend who says a gun is unloaded or otherwise safe."
- "If a student tells you they have a gun in their backpack or locker, or a gun at home they plan to bring to school, tell an adult right away."



What do I ask **other parents** before my child plays or babysits at their house?

- "Before I drop my son off, I just wanted to check to see if you have pets. And also ask if you have firearms in your house and confirm how they are stored. I want to make sure he knows your safety rules."
- "While we're talking safety – do you have any guns in the house? If so, can you tell me how they're stored? Thanks!"

Keep the tone nonjudgmental and focused on shared concern for children's well-being.

About **secure storage**:

- Lock your firearms, unloaded, in a gun safe, lock box, vehicle console safe, or vehicle cargo area safe. Gun safes are not subject to sales tax in Tennessee.
- Alternatively, use a cable lock (available free from your county sheriff's office and other locations) or trigger lock to secure your firearm.
- A hidden gun is not a safe gun.
- It is recommended that you store firearms separately from ammunition.

