



Every year in the United States, nearly 360 children aged 17 and under gain access to a firearm and unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else. More than 700 more die by suicide with a gun each year. We have the power to prevent tragedies like these from happening. Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund has developed the Be SMART framework to help parents and adults prevent child gun deaths and injuries.

Did You Know

4.6 million children in America live in homes with guns that are both loaded and unlocked.

Nearly 360 children 17 and under gain access to a firearm and unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else—sometimes fatally.

More than 700 children 17 and under die by suicide with a gun each year.

Safety is Always an Adult Responsibility

Kids will be kids, so it's always an adult's responsibility to keep children safe. Always assume that curious or impulsive kids may find and touch an unsecured gun, even if they've been told not to. If a child handles a gun, a bad decision can quickly become a fatal one. Be SMART adults protect kids by making sure all guns are stored securely, which means they are inaccessible to kids, and by making sure children are never in the presence of unsecured guns.

Everytown for Gun Safety launched the Be SMART campaign to take action to promote responsible gun ownership and reduce child gun deaths. The campaign focuses on education and awareness about child gun deaths and secure gun storage. Be SMART volunteers encourage parents and caretakers to "Be SMART" and take these five simple steps to help prevent shootings by children: **Secure** all guns in your home and vehicles; **Model** responsible behavior around guns; **Ask** about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes; **Recognize** the role of guns in suicide; **Tell** your peers to be SMART.

Be SMART

Secure all guns in your homes and vehicles;
Model responsible behavior around guns;
Ask about unsecured guns in other homes;
Recognize the role of guns in suicide;
Tell your peers to Be SMART

What Can You Do?

It's simple. Spread the Be SMART message. Talk to your friends and family about the importance of secure gun storage, and get the word out in your community. Volunteers all over the country are available to deliver a 20-minute presentation entitled "Be SMART: A conversation about kids, guns and safety" to local groups and organizations.

Visit [BeSMARTforKids.org](https://www.BeSMARTforKids.org) to learn more and download resources. When it comes to kids' safety, we're all in this together!

For more information or to get involved
text SMART to 644-33

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Presbyterian Church(USA) is a proud partner of the Be SMART campaign

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