

GUN SAFETY & CHILDREN



If you have a firearm in your home, it is crucial to ensure appropriate supervision, safety and storage to reduce the risk of injury or death.

Practice the **Three S's of Gun Safety:**



Speak Up

- » Talk with children about the risk of injury or death from firearms
- » Teach your child if they find a firearm to leave it alone and alert an adult right away



Safe Storage

- » Store firearms unloaded and separately from ammunition
- » Secure firearms in a locked safe or box; regularly change the lock combination or key location



Supervise

- » If a family member is experiencing increased mental health issues, consider removing any firearms from the home
- » As a parent or caregiver, ask about access to unsecured firearms when children are visiting someone else's home

This information has been adapted from Virginia Department of Health resources on firearm safety and Lock and Talk Virginia

If you or someone you know is experiencing a life-threatening injury or act of violence, call 911 immediately.

For more information on the prevention of child fatalities, please contact your local department of social services or visit www.lockandtalk.org to learn more about gun safety.

Poison Emergency: 1-800-555-1212

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255



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SOCIAL SERVICES