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:**

1. **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

2. **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

3. **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](http://www.lockandtalk.org) to learn more about gun safety.