

BE SMART

Be SMART is a program developed by Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund to bring together parents and all adults concerned about kids, guns, and safety.

BeSMARTforkids.org

Welcome!

West Windsor-Plainsboro School District Parent University
September 14, 2022



- ① We all want kids to grow up happy and healthy.
- ② We each have the right to make responsible decisions about how to protect our homes, families, and communities—including whether or not to have a gun in our home.
- ③ If we can prevent even one child gun death or injury, it's our responsibility to do so.



Be SMART is a program to bring together all adults concerned about kids, guns, and safety.

Resources Contact Info

National Suicide Prevention Line

1 (800) 273-8255
(24 hours/day)

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

can be reached by calling or texting
988, or chatting on
<http://988lifeline.org>



Trevor Project

***The LGBTQIA+ Youth Suicide
Prevention Line***

Trevor Lifeline
1 (866) 488-7386

Text "Home" to 741-741
From anywhere in the United States,
anytime, about any type of crisis

Law Enforcement

Volunteers in NJ partnered with local police departments to provide information at Be SMART tables during National Night Out. In Mercer County along 7 towns had representation.



Law Enforcement

New Jersey State Police posted the Be Smart message on its social media sites.





**Firearms are the LEADING
CAUSE of death for CHILDREN
in the US.**



In incidents of gunfire on school grounds, up to 76% of shooters under the age of 18 obtained the gun(s) they used from their home or the home of relatives or friends.

An American Problem

Tap Into Newark

Fatal Shooting of an 8 year old

An 8-year-old boy died after he accidentally shot himself with his uncle's firearm that was left lying around a Newark residence.

August 2021

Philadelphia Inquirer

A 2 year old accidentally shot and killed his 4 year old sister while their father was pumping gas. The father's friend had left the gun in the car while he went into the store.

April 2022

Central Jersey.com

Lawrence High School Student Faces Charges of bringing gun to school

15 year old was apprehended after bringing a loaded handgun to school. The serial number was filed off.

December 2021

Philadelphia Inquirer

16 year old shot a 23 year old with the victim's handgun while he was taking pictures of himself with it.

January 2021

BE SMART

S

Secure

All guns in your
home and vehicle

M

Model

Responsible
behavior

A

Ask

Unsecured guns
in other homes

R

Recognize

The role of guns in
suicide

T

Tell

Your peers to
Be SMART



Secure guns in homes and vehicles

- 13 million households with children contain at least one gun
- One study found that the majority of children in gun-owning households knew where the gun was stored
- Store guns locked up and inaccessible to kids
- Hiding a gun is not “securing” a gun



Full-Size Gun Safe

Storage of multiple guns in one place.
Biometric lock more secure than key
or passcode.

\$200-\$2,000

- Prevents access by children
- Prevents access by unauthorized users
- Prevents theft (if secured to a structure in home)
- Enables fast access



Lock Box/Locker

Smaller and lighter than safe.
Biometric lock more secure than key
or passcode.

\$25-\$350

- Prevents access by children
- Prevents access by unauthorized users
- Provides secure vehicle storage
- Enables fast access



Console/Vehicle Gun Safe

For storage in a vehicle. Biometric lock
more secure than key or passcode.

\$50-\$350

- Prevents access by children
- Prevents access by unauthorized users
- Prevents theft (if secured to a structure in car)
- Provides secure vehicle storage
- Enables fast access



Gun Case

For home or in-transit storage of one firearm. Uses external lock

\$10-\$150

Prevents access by children
Prevents access by unauthorized users
Enables fast access



Trigger Lock

Locks trigger of single weapon. Never use with loaded gun. May be dismantled with minimal tools and skills, so not as effective with older children and teens.

\$10-\$75

Prevents use by small children
Enables fast access



Cable Lock

Cable runs through action of single weapon to prevent firing. Ammunition must be removed for lock use. May be dismantled with minimal tools and skills, so not as effective with older children and teens.

\$0 -\$50

Prevents use by small children
Enables fast access
*Often provided free with firearm purchase.



Model Responsible Behavior

- It is always an adult's responsibility to prevent unauthorized access to guns, not a curious child's responsibility to avoid guns
- Make it a part of the normal safety conversation you have with your children
- Keep the language simple; for example: "If you see a gun, don't touch it. Tell an adult right away."

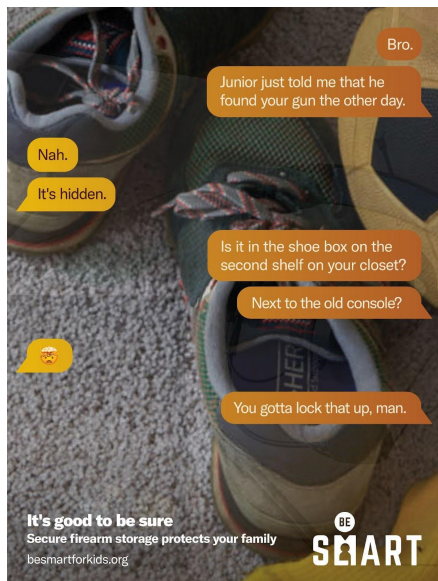


A

Ask About Unsecured Guns in Other Homes

- Make it a part of your general safety conversation you have when sending your child to any home
- Try email or text
- 4.6 million U.S. children live in a household with at least one loaded, unlocked gun

Be SMART Campaign



Bro.

Junior just told me that he found your gun the other day.

Nah.

It's hidden.

Is it in the shoe box on the second shelf on your closet?

Next to the old console?

You gotta lock that up, man.

It's good to be sure
Secure firearm storage protects your family
besmartforkids.org

BE SMART



Hey, how's Jayden?
He seems really down lately.

I'm worried about him...

He just comes home and shuts himself in his room.

He won't talk to me.

I'll talk to him.

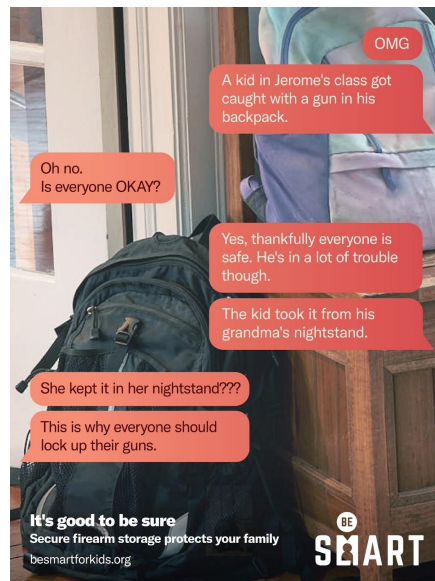
Thanks so much. He always listens to you.

Hey, I spoke with Jayden.
He mentioned your firearm.

Do you have it locked up?

It's good to be sure
Secure firearm storage protects your family
besmartforkids.org

BE SMART



OMG

A kid in Jerome's class got caught with a gun in his backpack.

Oh no.
Is everyone OKAY?

Yes, thankfully everyone is safe. He's in a lot of trouble though.

The kid took it from his grandma's nightstand.

She kept it in her nightstand???

This is why everyone should lock up their guns.

It's good to be sure
Secure firearm storage protects your family
besmartforkids.org

BE SMART



Bro.

Junior me acaba de decir que encontró tu pistola el otro día.

Noooo.
Está escondida.

¿Está en una caja de zapatos en la segunda tablilla de tu closet?

¿Al lado de la consola vieja?

Tienes que guardar eso bajo llave, socio.

Es bueno estar seguro
Mantener las armas bajo llave protege a tu familia
besmartforkids.org

BE SMART



R

Recognize the Role of Guns in Suicide

- Most people who attempt suicide do not die—unless they use a gun
- 90% of suicide attempts with a gun result in death—a much higher fatality rate than any other means of self harm
- This contributes to the fact that 41 percent of child suicides involve a gun

A survey of High School students found that 20% had seriously considered attempting suicide within the last year.

And one study showed that 41% of adolescents in gun-owning households report having "easy-access" to the guns in their home.

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Tell Everyone You Know to Be SMART

- Your voice, and all voices are critical. How will you commit to Be SMART today?
- Consider at least THREE people that you want to share the Be SMART message with right now
- Share Be SMART within your community
- Text SMART to 64433 to learn more

Contact Info

State BeSMART Lead

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BeSMART Leads**

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**Secure gun storage
can save lives.
TEXT SMART
TO 644-33
to learn how
you can help.**



BeSMARTforKids.org

Thank You!

www.bemartforkids.org

September 14, 2022