

## Gun violence is the leading cause of death for kids in the US

It's a shocking fact, but there are more. Every year, **700 kids** die by suicide with a gun. And nearly **350 children** shoot themselves, or someone else, unintentionally. **76%** of the guns used by children in school shootings were from a **parent's or relative's home**. Almost **25% of them** are taken from their vehicles.

More than **500,000 guns** are stolen every year. In 2020, more than half of gun thefts were from cars.



### Secure storage prevents tragedies

The best way to be sure your kids can't access firearms in your household is to store them securely. **There are plenty of options for all budgets—from a full-size gun safe to a cable lock, and additional options for secure storage in vehicles.**



### Talking about secure firearms protects your loved ones wherever they are

You want your kids safe from guns everywhere they go, including other homes. **Ask other adults if their firearms are secure, and talk to your friends and family about the importance of secure storage.**

Visit **[besmartforkids.org](https://besmartforkids.org)** to learn more and to get you and your community involved.

## About Be SMART

Be SMART is a national program dedicated to protecting kids by raising awareness about the importance of secure gun storage. Here's how to Be SMART and protect your family:

**S**

**Secure** all guns in your home and vehicles

**M**

**Model** responsible behavior around guns

**A**


**Ask** about unsecured guns in other homes and vehicles

**R**

**Recognize** the role of guns in suicide

**T**

**Tell** your friends and neighbors to be SMART

A photograph of a bed with a white sheet and a blue blanket. A pile of clothes, including a blue long-sleeved shirt, a blue and white patterned shirt, and a pair of blue jeans, is on the bed.

Hey Mike. On my way to drop off Junior. Thank you so much for the last minute help.

You got it! See you soon.

BTW, I know you have a gun. Is it locked at home? It freaks me out that the kids might find it.

Of course I have it in a gun safe! Don't worry!

I figured. Thanks!

# BE SMART

Secure firearm storage  
protects your family

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A photograph of a wooden closet. A blue denim jacket and a pair of black boots are hanging on the closet door. A green jacket is hanging on the right side. A soccer ball and a basketball are on the floor next to the closet.

It's good to  
be sure

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protects your family

BE  
SMART