BRIGHT FUTURES HANDOUT ▶ PARENT

9 MONTH VISIT

Here are some suggestions from Bright Futures experts that may be of value to your family.





HOW YOUR FAMILY IS DOING

- If you feel unsafe in your home or have been hurt by someone, let us know.
 Hotlines and community agencies can also provide confidential help.
- Keep in touch with friends and family.
- Invite friends over or join a parent group.
- Take time for yourself and with your partner.



Young of haveing han bed eveloping as a sac

- Keep daily routines for your baby.
- Let your baby explore inside and outside the home. Be with her to keep her safe and feeling secure.
- Be realistic about her abilities at this age.
- Recognize that your baby is eager to interact with other people but will also be anxious when separated from you. Crying when you leave is normal. Stay calm.
- Support your baby's learning by giving her baby balls, toys that roll, blocks, and containers to play with.
- Help your baby when she needs it.
- Talk, sing, and read daily.
- Don't allow your baby to watch TV or use computers, tablets, or smartphones.
- Consider making a family media plan. It helps you make rules for media use and balance screen time with other activities, including exercise.



PINERIORIO

- Tell your baby in a nice way what to do ("Time to eat"), rather than what not to do.
- Be consistent.
- Use distraction at this age. Sometimes you can change what your baby is doing by offering something else such as a favorite toy.
- Do things the way you want your baby to do them—you are your baby's role model.
- Use "No!" only when your baby is going to get hurt or hurt others.



FEEDING YOUR BABY

- Be patient with your baby as he learns to eat without help.
- Know that messy eating is normal.
- Emphasize healthy foods for your baby. Give him
 3 meals and 2 to 3 snacks each day.
- Start giving more table foods. No foods need to be withheld except for raw honey and large chunks that can cause choking.
- Vary the thickness and lumpiness of your baby's food.
- Don't give your baby soft drinks, tea, coffee, and flavored drinks.
- Avoid feeding your baby too much. Let him decide when he is full and wants to stop eating,
- Keep trying new foods. Babies may say no to a food 10 to 15 times before they try it.
- Help your baby learn to use a cup.
- Continue to breastfeed as long as you can and your baby wishes. Talk with us if you have concerns about weaning.
- Continue to offer breast milk or iron-fortified formula until 1 year of age. Don't switch to cow's milk until then.

Helpful Resources: National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233 | Family Media Use Plan: www.healthychildren.org/MediaUsePlan Poison Help Line: 800-222-1222 | Information About Car Safety Seats: www.safercar.gov/parents | Toll-free Auto Safety Hotline: 888-327-4236

9 MONTH VISIT—PARENT



SAFETY

- Use a rear-facing—only car safety seat in the back seat of all vehicles.
- Have your baby's car safety seat rear facing until she reaches the highest weight or height allowed by the car safety seat's manufacturer. In most cases, this will be well past the second birthday.
- Never put your baby in the front seat of a vehicle that has a passenger airbag.
- Your baby's safety depends on you. Always wear your lap and shoulder seat belt. Never drive after drinking alcohol or using drugs. Never text or use a cell phone while driving.
- Never leave your baby alone in the car. Start habits that prevent you from ever forgetting your baby in the car, such as putting your cell phone in the back seat
- If it is necessary to keep a gun in your home, store it unloaded and locked with the ammunition locked separately.
- Place gates at the top and bottom of stairs.
- Don't leave heavy or hot things on tablecloths that your baby could pull over.
- Put barriers around space heaters and keep electrical cords out of your baby's reach.
- Never leave your baby alone in or near water, even in a bath seat or ring. Be within arm's reach at all times.
- Keep poisons, medications, and cleaning supplies locked up and out of your baby's sight and reach.
- Put the Poison Help line number into all phones, including cell phones. Call if you are worried your baby has swallowed something harmful.
- Install operable window guards on windows at the second story and higher.
 Operable means that, in an emergency, an adult can open the window.
- Keep furniture away from windows.
- Keep your baby in a high chair or playpen when in the kitchen.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT YOUR CHILD'S 12 MONTH VISIT

We will talk about

- Caring for your child, your family, and yourself
- Creating daily routines
- Feeding your child
- Caring for your child's teeth
- Keeping your child safe at home, outside, and in the car

Consistent with Bright Futures: Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents, 4th Edition

For more information, go to https://brightfutures.aap.org.

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

The information contained in this handout should not be used as a substitute for the medical care and advice of your pediatrician. There may be variations in treatment that your pediatrician may recommend based on individual facts and circumstances. Original handout included as part of the *Bright Futures Tool and Resource Kit*, 2nd Edition.

Inclusion in this handout does not imply an endorsement by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). The AAP is not responsible for the content of the resources mentioned in this handout. Web site addresses are as current as possible but may change at any time.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) does not review or endorse any modifications made to this handout and in no event shall the AAP be liable for any such changes.

© 2019 American Academy of Pediatrics. All rights reserved.

Your Baby at 9 Months*

Child's Name

Child's Age

Today's Date



Milestones matter! How your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves offers important clues about his or her development. Check the milestones your child has reached by 9 months. Take this with you and talk with your child's doctor at every well-child visit about the milestones your child has reached and what to expect next.

What Most Babies Do by this Age:

Social/Emotional ☐ May be afraid of strangers ☐ May be clingy with familiar adults ☐ Has favorite tovs Language/Communication □ Understands "no" ☐ Makes a lot of different sounds like "mamamama" and "bababababa" Copies sounds and gestures of others Uses fingers to point at things Cognitive (learning, thinking, problem-solving) Watches the path of something as it falls ☐ Looks for things he sees you hide □ Plavs peek-a-boo Puts things in her mouth Moves things smoothly from one hand to the other ☐ Picks up things like cereal o's between thumb and index finger Movement/Physical Development □ Stands, holding on □ Can get into sitting position Sits without support

You Know Your Child Best.

Act early if you have concerns about the way your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, or moves, or if your child:

- ☐ Is missing milestones
- ☐ Doesn't bear weight on legs with support
- ☐ Doesn't sit with help
- ☐ Doesn't babble ("mama", "baba", "dada")
- ☐ Doesn't play any games involving back-and-forth play
- □ Doesn't respond to own name
- ☐ Doesn't seem to recognize familiar people
- ☐ Doesn't look where you point
- Doesn't transfer toys from one hand to the other

Tell your child's doctor or nurse if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay and ask for a developmental screening.

If you or the doctor is still concerned

- 1. Ask for a referral to a specialist and,
- Call your state or territory's early intervention program to find out if your child can get services to help. Learn more and find the number at cdc.gov/FindEl.

For more information, go to cdc.gov/Concerned.

DON'T WAIT. Acting early can make a real difference!



It's time for developmental screening!

At 9 months, your child is due for general developmental screening, as recommended for all children by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Ask the doctor about your child's developmental screening.



Pulls to stand

□ Crawls



www.cdc.gov/ActEarly 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)

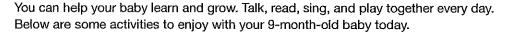


Download CDC's Milestone Tracker App

Google Play

Ann Store

Help Your Baby Learn and Grow





What You Can Do for Your 9-Month-Old:

Pay attention to the way he reacts to new situations and people; try to continue to do things that make your baby happy and comfortable.	Teach cause-and-effect by rolling balls back and forth, pushing toy cars and trucks, and putting blocks in and out of a container.
 □ As she moves around more, stay close so she knows that you are near. □ Continue with routines; they are especially important now. □ Play games with "my turn, your turn." □ Say what you think your baby is feeling. For example, say, "You are so sad, let's see if we can make you feel better." □ Describe what your baby is looking at; for example, "red, round ball." □ Talk about what your baby wants when he points at something. □ Copy your baby's sounds and words. 	 □ Play peek-a-boo and hide-and-seek. □ Read and talk to your baby. □ Provide lots of room for your baby to move and explore in a safe area. □ Put your baby close to things that she can pull up on safely.
☐ Ask for behaviors that you want. For example, instead of saying "don't stand," say "time to sit."	

Milestones adapted from CARING FOR YOUR BABY AND YOUNG CHILD: BIRTH TO AGE 5, Fifth Edition, edited by Steven Shelov and Tanya Remer Altmann © 1991, 1993, 1998, 2004, 2009 by the American Academy of Pediatrics and BRIGHT FUTURES: GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH SUPERVISION OF INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADOLESCENTS, Third Edition, edited by Joseph Hagan, Jr., Judith S. Shaw, and Paula M. Duncan, 2008, Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics.

This milestone checklist is not a substitute for a standardized, validated developmental screening tool.







A Guide to Children's Dental Health

The road to a bright smile begins long before the first tooth appears. Parents play a big part in helping their children develop healthy teeth. Early monitoring by your child's doctor and dentist is important.

Steps to good dental health include

- Regular care by a dentist trained to treat young children (See What is a pediatric dentist?)
- · Getting enough fluoride
- · Regular brushing and flossing
- · Eating right

Read on for information from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) about why fluoride is important, when to start cleaning your child's teeth, if pacifier use or thumb-sucking hurts teeth, how to prevent tooth decay, pediatric dentists, and regular dental checkups.

Why is fluoride important?

Fluoride is a natural substance that can be added to drinking water and toothpaste. It strengthens tooth enamel (the hard outer coating on teeth). Fluoride also helps repair early damage to teeth.

Children should drink water with fluoride in it when available. If not available, talk with your child's doctor or pediatric dentist to see if your child needs fluoride tablets or drops. Your child may also have fluoride varnish applied to his teeth by his doctor or pediatric dentist.

When should I start cleaning my child's teeth?

Daily tooth cleaning should start as soon as your baby's first tooth appears. Wipe the teeth with a piece of gauze or a damp cloth at least twice daily, after meals. Switch to a soft toothbrush with a fluoride toothpaste once your child has a tooth.

A smear (the size of a grain of rice) of fluoride toothpaste should be used for children younger than 3 years. For children 3 and older, a peasized amount of fluoride toothpaste should be used. Because children tend to swallow toothpaste, using too much fluoride toothpaste while brushing may result in fluorosis (spotting of the teeth).

Also, check the teeth for early signs of tooth decay. Tooth decay appears as white, yellow, or brown spots or lines on the teeth. Any 2 teeth that are touching each other should be flossed to prevent a cavity from forming between the teeth. An ideal baby bite should have gaps between the front teeth.

Does pacifier use or thumb-sucking hurt teeth?

If a child sucks strongly on a pacifier, his thumb, or his fingers, this habit may affect the shape of his mouth or how his teeth are lining up. If he stops using a pacifier by 3 years of age, his bite will most likely correct itself. If he stops sucking on a pacifier, his thumb, or his fingers before his permanent front teeth come in, there's a chance his bite will correct itself. If he continues his sucking habit after his adult teeth have come in, orthodontic care may be needed to realign his teeth.

How can I prevent tooth decay in my baby or child?

Parents, especially if they have a history of cavities, can pass germs that cause cavities and gum disease if they share food or drinks with their children. This is why it is important for parents to keep the following tips in mind:

- · Do not share your food or drinks with your children.
- Do not lick your children's spoons, forks, or pacifiers.
- Do make sure to keep your gums and teeth healthy and schedule regular dental checkups. Pregnant women should make sure their gums and teeth are healthy too.

Other ways parents can help prevent tooth decay in their babies and children include

- · If you put your child to bed with a bottle, fill it only with water.
- If your child drinks from a bottle or sippy cup, make sure to fill it only with water when it's not mealtime.
- If your child wants a snack, offer a healthy one like fruits or vegetables. (To help your child avoid choking, make sure anything you give your child is soft, easy to swallow, and cut into small pieces no larger than one-half an inch.)
- Avoid sweet or sticky snacks, such as raisins, gummy candies and vitamins, or Fruit Roll-Ups or cookies. There is sugar in foods like crackers and chips too. They should only be eaten at mealtime.
- If your child is thirsty, give her water or milk. If your child drinks milk at bedtime, make sure to clean her teeth afterward. Don't let your child sip drinks that have sugar and acid, such as juices, sports drinks, flavored drinks, lemonade, soft drinks (soda, pop), or flavored teas.

What is a pediatric dentist?

During regular well-child visits, your child's pediatrician will check your child's teeth and gums to make sure they are healthy. If your child has dental problems, your child's pediatrician will refer her to a pediatric dentist or a general dentist trained to treat young children.

A pediatric dentist specializes in the care of children's teeth, but some general dentists also treat children. Pediatricians refer children younger than 1 year to a dental professional if the child

- · Chips or injures a tooth or has an injury to the face or mouth.
- Has teeth that show any signs of discoloration. This could be a sign of tooth decay or trauma.
- Complains of tooth pain or is sensitive to hot or cold foods or liquids. This could also be a sign of decay.
- Has any abnormal lesion (growth) inside the mouth.
- · Has an unusual bite (the teeth do not fit together right).

Find a pediatric dentist in your area on the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Web site at www.aapd.org.

When should my child begin regular dental checkups?

The AAP recommends that all infants receive oral health risk assessments by 6 months of age. Infants at higher risk of early dental caries should be referred to a dentist as early as 6 months of age, and no later than 6 months after the first tooth erupts or 12 months of age (whichever comes first) to establish their dental home. Every child should have a dental home established by 12 months of age.

From Your Doctor 🕖



American Academy of Pediatrics DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



healthychildren.org Powered by pediatricians. Trusted by parents. from the American Attentions of Peoligisics

The persons whose photographs are depicted in this publication are professional models. They have no relation to the issues

 $The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is an organization of 66,000\ primary care pediatricians, pediatricians and pediatricians are pediatricians. The American Academy of Pediatricians are pediatricians and pediatricians are pediatricians and pediatricians are pediatricians. The American Academy of Pediatricians are pediatricians are pediatricians and pediatricians are pediatricians. The American Academy of Pediatricians are pediatricians are pediatricians are pediatricians are pediatricians. The American Academy of Pediatricians are pediatricians are pediatricians are pediatricians are pediatricians. The American Academy of Pediatricians are pediatricians. The American Academy of Pediatricians are p$ medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of infants,

discussed. Any characters they are portraying are fictional. Listing of resources does not imply an endorsement by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). The AAP is not responsible for the content of external resources. Information was current at the time of publication. Products are mentioned for informational purposes only and do not imply an endorsement by the American Academy of Pediatrics. The information contained in this publication should not be used as a substitute for the medical care and advice of your pediatrician. There may be variations in treatment that your pediatrician may recommend based on individual facts and circumstances.

children, adolescents, and young adults.



A Parent's Guide to Water Safety

Drowning is one of the top causes of injury and death in children. Children can drown in pools, rivers, ponds, lakes, or oceans. They can even drown in a few inches of water in bathtubs, toilets, and large buckets.

Here is information from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) about how to keep your children safe in or around water.

Water Safety at Home

Parents need to keep a close eye on infants and young children, especially as they learn to crawl.

To keep your child safe, make sure you

- Never leave your child alone in the bathtub—even for a moment. Many bathtub drownings happen (even in a few inches of water) when a parent leaves a small child alone or with another young child. Also, bath seats are just bathing aids. Bath seats can tip over and your child can slip out of them, so they won't prevent drowning.
- Empty water from containers, such as large pails and 5-gallon buckets, immediately after use.
- Keep bathroom doors closed. Install doorknob covers or a hookand-eye latch or other lock that is out of the reach of your small child.
- Keep toilets closed. Always close the toilet lid, and consider using a toilet lid latch.

Water Safety at the Pool

An adult should actively watch children at all times while they are in a pool. For infants and toddlers, an adult should be in the water and within arm's reach, providing "touch supervision." For older children, an adult should be paying constant attention and free from distractions, like talking on the phone, socializing, tending to household chores, or drinking alcohol. The supervising adult must know how to swim.

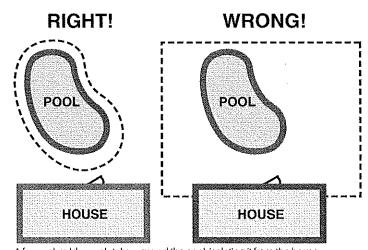
Pool Rules

If you have a pool, insist that the following rules are followed:

- · No one, adult or child, should ever swim alone.
- · Keep toys away from the pool when the pool is not in use.
- · Empty small blow-up pools after each use.
- No tricycles or other riding toys at poolside.
- · No electrical appliances near the pool.
- · No diving in a pool that is not deep enough.
- · No running on the pool deck.

Pool Fences

Children can climb out a window, climb though a doggy door, or sneak out a door to get to the backyard and the pool. To prevent small children from entering the pool area on their own, there should be a fence that completely surrounds the pool or spa. Combined with the watchful eyes of an adult, a fence is the best way to protect your child and other children who may visit or live nearby.



A fence should completely surround the pool, isolating it from the house.

Pool fences should also

- Be climb-resistant and not have anything alongside them (such as lawn furniture) that can be used to climb them.
- Be at least 4 feet high and have no footholds or handholds that could help a child climb them.
- Have no more than 4 inches between vertical slats. Chain-link fences are very easy to climb and are not recommended as pool fences. If they must be used, the diamond shape should not be bigger than 13/4 inches.
- Have a gate that is well maintained and is self-closing and self-latching, it should only open away from the pool. The latches should be higher than a child can reach—54 inches from the bottom of the gate.
- For aboveground pools always keep children away from steps or ladders. When the pool is not in use, lock or remove ladders to prevent access by children.

Other protection products, when used with an "isolation" fence, may be of some benefit; however, these are not substitutes for adequate fencing.

These may include

- Automatic pool covers (motorized covers operated by a switch). Pool covers should cover the entire pool so that a child can't slip under them. Make sure there is no standing water on top of the pool cover.
 Be aware that floating solar covers are not safety covers.
- · Door alarms pool alarms, and window guards.
- · Doors to the house that are self-closing or self-latching.

Swimming Lessons

Children need to learn to swim. The AAP supports swimming lessons for most children 4 years and older and for children 1 to 4 years of age who are ready to learn how to swim. Keep in mind that because children

Don't Drink and Swim

Swimmers are at serious risk of drowning when they drink alcohol or use other drugs while swimming, diving, and playing water sports. These activities require clear thinking, coordination, and the ability to judge distance, depth, speed, and direction. Alcohol impairs all of these skills. People who are supervising other swimmers should not be using alcohol or drugs.

develop at different rates, each child will be ready to swim at her own time. Also, swimming lessons do not provide "drown-proofing" for children of any age, so supervision and other layers of protection are necessary—even for children who have learned swimming skills.

Some factors you may consider before starting swimming lessons for younger children include frequency of exposure to water, emotional maturity, physical limitations, and health concerns related to swimming pools (for example, swallowing water, infections, pool chemicals). While some swim programs claim to teach water survival skills to infants younger than 12 months, evidence does not show that they are effective in preventing drowning.

Swim classes should be taught by qualified teachers. For children younger than 3 years, the World Aquatic Babies & Children Network recommends that parents must participate, the time the head is submerged underwater is limited (swallowing too much water can make your child sick), and classes should be fun and include one-on-one teaching.

Pool conditions should be monitored to make sure chemical and water temperature levels are safe. Another safety measure is to check with the pool operator if there are protective drain covers or vacuum release systems.

Diving

Serious spinal cord injuries, permanent brain damage, and death can occur to swimmers who dive into shallow water or spring upward on the diving board and hit it on the way down.

Keep safe by following these simple commonsense diving rules.

- Check how deep the water is, Enter the water feetfirst, especially when going in for the first time.
- · Never dive into aboveground pools.
- · Never dive into the shallow end of a pool.
- Never dive through inner tubes or other pool toys.
- Learn how to dive properly by taking classes.

Water Safety in Other Bodies of Water

Swimming in a pool is different from swimming in other bodies of water. In addition to rules for pool safety, parents and children should know the rules for swimming in oceans, lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams.

These include

- · Never swim without adult supervision.
- Never dive into water unless an adult who knows the depth of the water says it's OK.

healthychildren.org

Powered by padiatricians. Trusted by parents

from the American Abademy of Padiatrics

- Always use an approved personal flotation device (life jacket or life vest) when boating, riding on a personal watercraft, fishing, waterskiing, or playing in a river or stream. Water wings and other blow-up swimming aids should not be used in place of life jackets.
- Never try water sports such as skiing, scuba diving, or snorkeling without instructions from a qualified teacher.
- Never swim around anchored boats, in motorboat lanes, or where people are waterskiing.
- · Never swim during electrical storms.
- If you swim or drift far from shore, stay calm and tread water, or float on your back until help arrives.
- Other water hazards found near many homes include canals, ditches, postholes, wells, fishponds, and fountains. Watch your child closely if he is playing near any of these areas.

Life Jackets and Life Preservers

If your family enjoys spending time on the water, make sure everyone wears an approved personal flotation device or life jacket. Some people think life jackets are hot, bulky, and ugly. However, today's models have improved in looks, comfort, and protection. Many states require the use of life jackets and life preservers. They must be present on all boats traveling in water supervised by the US Coast Guard. Remember, without wearing a life jacket, your child is not protected.

Keep the following tips in mind:

- · A life jacket should not take the place of adult supervision.
- Choose a life jacket that fits your child's weight and age. It should be approved by the US Coast Guard and tested by Underwriters Laboratories (UL). Check the label to be sure. The label should also say whether the jacket is made for an adult or a child.
- Teach your child how to put on her own life jacket and make sure it is worn the right way.
- Blow-up water wings, toys, rafts, and air mattresses should never be used as life jackets or life preservers.

In an Emergency

Here are ways to be ready for an emergency.

- Learn CPR. Anyone caring for or watching children should know CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). CPR can save a life and help reduce injury after a near drowning. The American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, and your local hospital or fire department offer CPR training.
- Always have a phone near the pool. Clearly post your local emergency phone number (usually 911).
- · Post safety and CPR instructions at poolside.
- Make sure all rescue equipment is nearby. This includes a shepherd hook, safety ring, and rope.

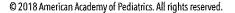
American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is an organization of 66,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults.

The persons whose photographs are depicted in this publication are professional models. They have no relation to the issues discussed. Any characters they are portraying are fictional. The information contained in this publication should not be used as a substitute for the medical care and advice of your pediatrician. There may be variations in treatment that your pediatrician may recommend based on individual facts and circumstances.



Guns in the Home

healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-home/Pages/Handguns-in-the-Home.aspx

<u>Listen</u> Español







By: Judy Schaechter, MD, MBA, FAAP

Did you know that roughly a third of U.S. homes with children have guns? In fact, nearly 2 million children live with unlocked, loaded guns. Parents may not realize what a serious injury risk a gun in the home is, especially for children.

Even young toddlers are capable of finding unlocked guns in the home, and they are strong enough to pull the trigger. Unintentional shootings happen to children of all ages. At least 285 children got ahold of a gun and inadvertently shot themselves or someone else in 2017. Adolescents, in particular, are at a higher risk for suicide when there is a gun in the home. In fact, a gun in the home is 43 times more likely to be used to kill a friend or family member than a burglar or other criminal.

The Most Effective Way to Keep Kids Safe
The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) advises
that the safest home for a child is one without guns.

The most effective way to prevent unintentional gun injuries, suicide and homicide to children and adolescents, research shows, is the absence of guns from homes and communities.

In 2017, at least
285 children
got ahold of a gun
and inadvertently
shot themselves or
someone else.

-EverytownResearch org/NotAnAccident

What to Do If You Do Keep a Gun in Your Home

For families who decide to keep guns in the home, many studies show that teaching kids about gun safety, or to not touch a firearm if they find one, is not enough.

Parents can reduce the chances of children being injured, however, by following important safety rules:

- Safe storage. All guns in your home should be locked and unloaded, with ammunition locked separately. Make sure children and teens can't access the keys or combinations to lock boxes or gun safes. And remember not to keep loaded, unlocked guns in the car, either.
- In use. When using a gun for hunting or target practice, keep the safety catch in place until you are ready to fire it. Before setting the gun down, always unload it. As much as a child may want to take a turn shooting, this is not a good idea. No matter how much instruction you may give about how to safely shoot a gun, children are not capable or responsible enough to handle a potentially lethal weapon.

Ask About Guns in Other Homes Where Your Child Plays

More than a third of all unintentional shootings of children take place in the homes of their friends, neighbors, or relatives.

Take steps to help ensure your children and their play mates do not come across an unsecured gun while they play:

Add this question to your playdate checklist. Even if you don't have guns in your
own home, <u>ask</u> about guns and safe storage at the other homes they visit. Just as
you'd ask about pets, allergies, supervision and other safety issues before your child

visits another home, add one more important question: "Is there an unlocked gun in your house?" If there is, reconsider allowing your child to play there or talk to them about keeping the guns unloaded and locked.

Just as you'd ask about pets, allergies, supervision and other safety issues before your child visits another home, add one more important question:

"Is there an unlocked gun in your house?"

Talk to your children.

Remind your kids that if they ever come across a gun, they must stay away from it and tell you immediately.

Guns (in Media) in the Home

Make sure your children understand that gun violence they may see on TV, in movies and in video games they play at home or friends' homes is not real. They need to be told—and probably reminded again and again—that in real life, children are killed and hurt badly by guns. Although the popular <u>media</u> often romanticize gun use, children must learn that these weapons can be extremely dangerous.

Parent Resources for Babies up to 1 year

There are so many resources available online for parents. Who do you trust? Here are some links approved by your pediatrician, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Healthy Children.org has a wealth of information for parents, including a Symptom checker, ideas for challenging your child to grow in development, and answers to questions about care of your child. https://www.healthychildren.org/English/Pages/default.aspx	
Care of Baby's Penis https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/baby/bathing-skin-care/Pages/Caring-For-Your-Sons-Penis.aspx	
Post-Partum Depression - Speak Up When You're Down https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/prenatal/delivery-beyond/Pages/Understanding-Motherhood-and-Mood-Baby-Blues-and-Beyond.aspx	
When Your Child Needs Emergency Care – What to do? https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/injuries- emergencies/Pages/When-Your-Child-Needs-Emergency-Medical- Services.aspx	
How and When to Introduce Solid Foods. The Baby-led Weaning website and pamphlet has helpful information on helping your baby move on to family meals. http://www.rapleyweaning.com/assets/blwleaflet2.pdf	
When does my baby need a new car seat? All the things you need to know about rear-facing car seats for infants and toddlers. https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/on-the-go/Pages/Rear-Facing-Car-Seats-for-Infants-Toddlers.aspx	
How do I safely take my baby for a bike ride? When are they old enough? https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-play/Pages/Baby-On-Board-Keeping-Safe-On-A-Bike.aspx	

If you don't have a QR code reader on your phone, try these:

Apple iPhone: Go to the App Store and search for "QR Reader". It's free; no ads. Android: Go to Google Play Store and search for "QR Code Reader". It's free; no ads.