

STATE OF KANSAS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



**REP. PATRICK PENN**  
District 85

**Proponent In-Person Testimony, SB522**  
**Representative Patrick Penn**  
**District 85**

Mr. Chairman and Honorable Members of the Committee:

*I support SB 522.*

*Education is a must when it pertains to our children.*

*I am a firm believer in the Right to Bear Arms, and I also believe there needs to be a component of education added, as well.*

*As you proceed today, please take into account the fact that one day, it may be your child or grandchildren that may come across a gun in a public or private space, and with this training, it can prevent the pain that so many have endured. **Let's protect our children and add this education component.***

The language of SB 522 is plain in its intent, idea, and price tag. Based on the Fiscal Note from the Eddie Eagle Bill from 2018, when this language passed out of the House 119-5, the Fiscal Note then was \$2,500. Even last year, when this Bill ran as Substitute House Bill 2089, the Fiscal Note remained at the minimal impact of a mere \$2,500 to cover the cost of travel to incorporate the program and deliver any necessary materials.

Through this bill, the NRA is providing its Gold Standard programming for firearm safety training for our Kansas kids and saving lives at zero cost and negligible impact to the budget. I would encourage this Committee to delve deeper into the Department's interpretation of the legislation's plain language and intent, as well as how it arrives at its new, higher price tag.

Let us now come together in strength to promote and ensure our children in Kansas are properly educated, in grade-appropriate fashion, on firearm accident prevention and how to practice gun safety in accordance with our Kansas law.

Here are two news links showing how this legislation, as written and plainly intended, is urgently needed to help – to whatever extent possible – prevent tragedies, such as what happened to 4-year old Makalah McKay and 13-year old Adam Toledo, from occurring here with our Kansas Children:

1. <https://chicago.suntimes.com/crime/2021/8/5/22612190/4-year-old-girl-shot-inside-of-home-in-englewood>
2. <https://abcnews.go.com/US/family-13-year-boy-shot-dead-chicago-police/story?id=76893930>

Our fight now is to protect any other parent from experiencing the pain of losing a child due to a lack of training on the appropriate reaction when encountering a firearm. This educational amendment will help in that goal. Its language has previously enjoyed overwhelming bipartisan support, and it passed favorably out of both the House and Senate just last year and presented to the Governor on Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. However, Governor Kelly vetoed the bill on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the behest of the KASB. I urge you to join me in support and vote "Yes" on Senate Bill 522 today. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I will be happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'P' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Rep. Patrick Penn  
District 85

# A Parents' Guide To Gun Safety

## Talking With Your Child

Speak openly and honestly about gun safety with your children. Answer questions and help eliminate the mystery surrounding guns. It is your decision when your child is ready to learn about or handle firearms.

## Toy Guns Vs. Real Guns

Children are often exposed to guns at an early age through television, movies and video games. Make sure your child understands the difference between entertainment and reality and does not mistake a real gun for a toy gun.

## Gun Storage

Parents need to choose a storage solution that is right for their home, but always remember that guns should be stored so they are inaccessible to unauthorized users and especially children.

## Eddie Eagle Gunsafe® Program

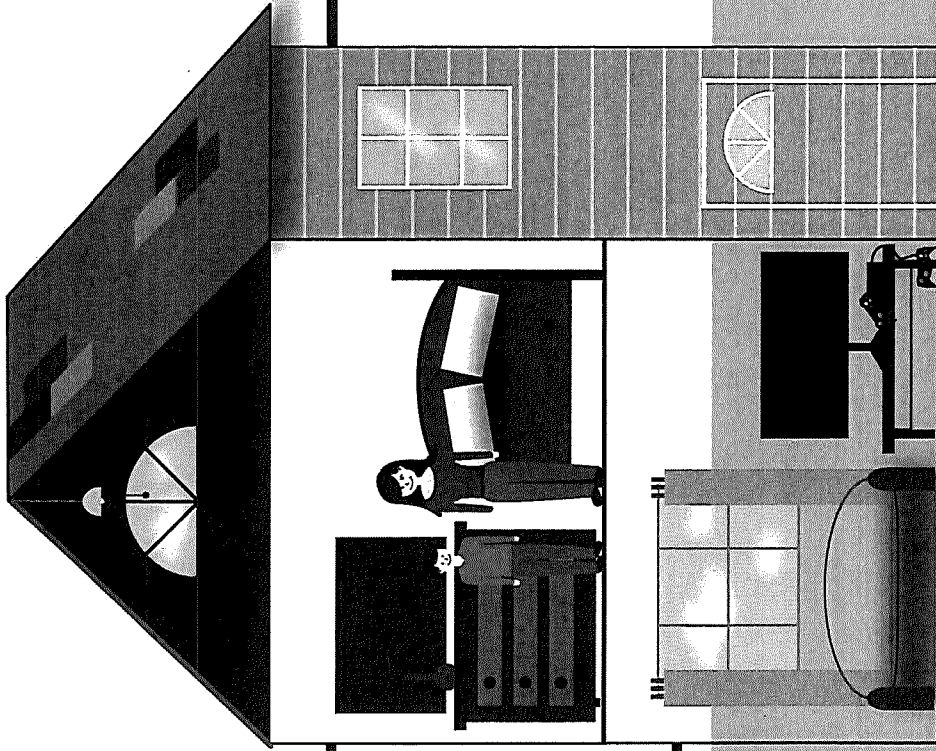
Young children must know how to stay safe if they encounter a firearm. Teach your child to remember Eddie Eagle's Gun Safety Message: **"STOP! DON'T TOUCH. LEAVE THE AREA. TELL AN ADULT."**

For more information about Eddie Eagle visit [Eddie.NRA.org](http://Eddie.NRA.org).

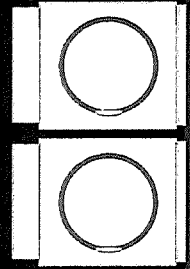
## Basic Gun Safety Rules

If you decide your children are ready to learn how to shoot a firearm, remember NRA's 3 basic gun safety rules:

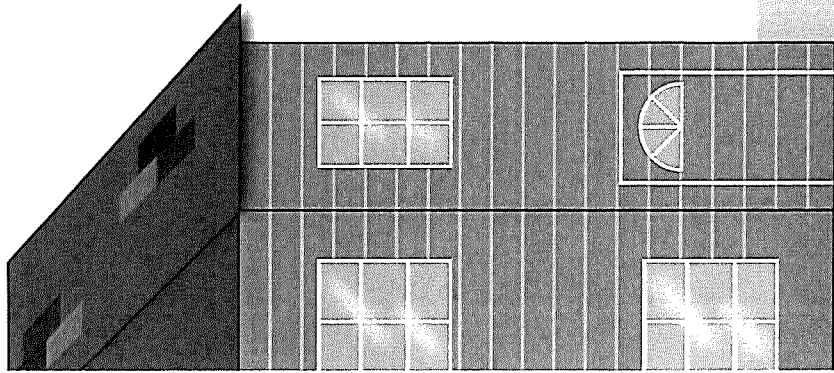
1. **ALWAYS** keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
2. **ALWAYS** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
3. **ALWAYS** keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.



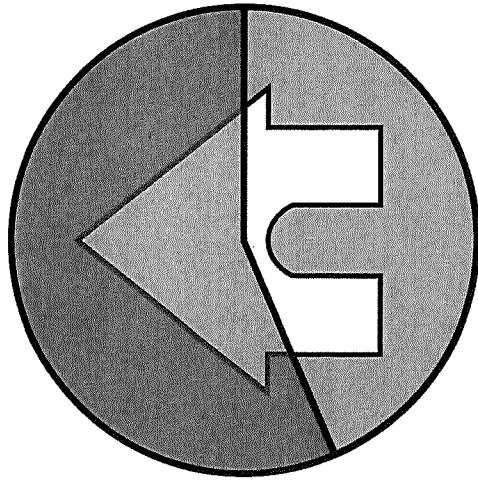
GUN SAFE



**According to federal statistics**, millions of households in the U.S. have guns. Whether you keep firearms in your household or not, talking to your children about what to do when encountering a firearm is critical. It is your responsibility to ensure your children understand firearm safety so share the message you want them to know about firearms.

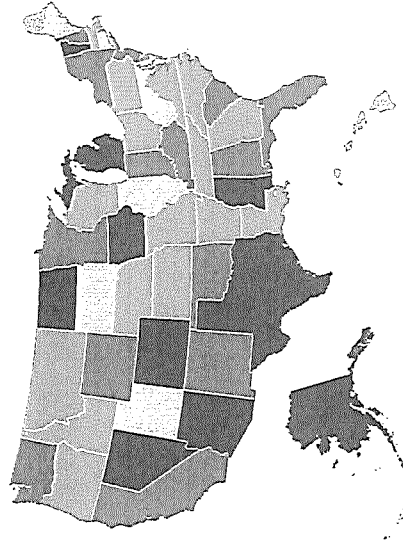


**Approximately 40%\*  
of U.S. households  
have firearms.**

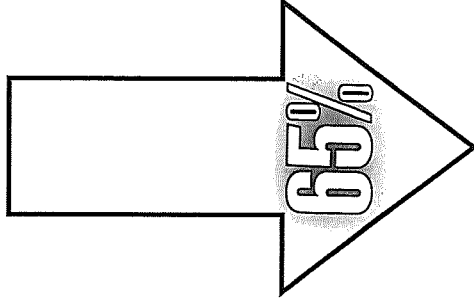


\*Gallup

**Eddie Eagle has reached  
more than 26 million  
children in all 50 states.**



**Unintentional firearm  
fatalities are down 65%\*\*  
in the last 20 years.**



\*\*CDC

**NRA**

More information for parents can be found at [eddie.nra.org](http://eddie.nra.org)  
This brochure is not a substitute for formal, qualified instruction in the use of firearms.  
To find a firearm safety course near you visit [www.nrainstructors.org](http://www.nrainstructors.org).



**"I would like to express my gratitude for the wonderful program you have provided for my students for the past 10 years. I use the program in every third grade classroom in the school and with some individual students."**

**- Dr. Lynda Rieger, Counselor  
Ascot Avenue Elementary School,  
Los Angeles Unified School District**

The program uses the friendly Eddie Eagle mascot and animated video, activity books, posters, and reward stickers to teach children how to stay safe.

This award-winning safety program was pioneered by past NRA President Marion P. Hammer, and developed in conjunction with school teachers, reading and curriculum specialists, child psychologists, and law enforcement professionals.

The program does not encourage NRA membership.

Anyone may teach the Eddie Eagle program by using the easy-to-use comprehensive instructor guides.

## Your Support Helps Kids Stay Safe.

Every year, thousands of children are able to learn how to avoid firearm accidents by learning Eddie Eagle's message, thanks to individual, corporate, and foundation support to benefit the Eddie Eagle GunSafe® Program. Generous gifts to Eddie Eagle make it possible for law enforcement, schools, and child safety leaders to reach even more children with Eddie's lifesaving message. The Eddie Eagle program gratefully acknowledges these gifts.

Major donors to the program include:

- The John S. Barta Estate
- Universal Coin & Bullion
- Boeing Employee Community Fund
- Joe M. and Diane Allbaugh

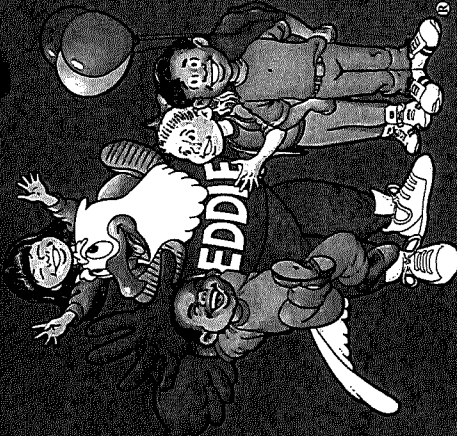
NRA's education and public service programs are funded in part by The NRA Foundation, a charitable affiliate of the NRA. Call 800-423-6894 or log on to [www.nrafoundation.org](http://www.nrafoundation.org) for more information.



For more information on the Eddie Eagle GunSafe® Program, call 800-231-0752, go online to [www.nrahq.org/safety/eddie](http://www.nrahq.org/safety/eddie), or send email to [eddie@nrahq.org](mailto:eddie@nrahq.org).

**The Eddie Eagle GunSafe® Program  
National Rifle Association  
11250 Waples Mill Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030**

# Gun Safety WITH Eddie Eagle



*If you see a gun:*

**STOP!**  
**Don't Touch.  
Leave the Area.**

**Tell an Adult.**

## Keeping Kids Safe

More than 25 million children across the United States have learned how to avoid gun accidents through the award-winning Eddie Eagle GunSafe® Program.



Eddie Eagle was developed specifically for children ranging from pre-K through the third grade.



**"We have incorporated the Eddie Eagle lesson plans in presentations for children in K - third grades since the late 1980s. This is the only gun safety program we use, and it has been well-received by the children. The Orange County Sheriff's Office is proud to partner with the Eddie Eagle GunSafe® Program."**

**- Sgt. Mary Huggins,  
Sheriff's Office  
Orange County, Florida**



# Safe! Effective! Easy! Honored!

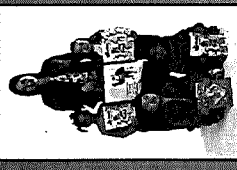
First, it is a parent's responsibility to ensure that guns are stored safely. NRA's longstanding rule of gun storage is:

Store your guns so that they are inaccessible to any unauthorized users, especially children.

The NRA brochure "A Parent's Guide To Gun Safety" has more information on how parents can keep their children safe. However, firearms are found in nearly half of all American households, and to ensure children's safety, they must be trained what to do if they encounter a firearm.



In the Eddie Eagle age group, the annual number of fatal gun accidents has dropped almost 80 percent since the the program's nationwide launch. Gun accident prevention programs such as Eddie Eagle are a significant factor in that decline.



Join the thousands of educators who have kept children safe by using the Eddie Eagle Program.

The Eddie Eagle Department often receives testimonials from Eddie Eagle "graduates" who found a gun and knew how to avoid an accident. These real-life examples demonstrate the program's effectiveness, and show how important the safety lesson is for America's youth.

The Eddie Eagle program was designed so that any adult could teach it. Instructor guides and materials are easy to follow and reinforce the program's lifesaving message for young children. The program is used by parents, schools, law enforcement agencies, and civic groups.



Thanks to funds raised by dedicated volunteers of the Friends of the NRA and distributed by The NRA Foundation, free Eddie Eagle materials are available in most states to law enforcement, schools, daycares, hospitals, and libraries.

Eddie Eagle has been endorsed and honored by the Youth Activities Division of the National Safety Council, the National Sheriff's Association, the American Legion, the Police Athletic League, and others.

Governors of 26 states and 23 state legislatures have recognized the importance of the program or officially recommended it for use.

The Eddie Eagle program makes no value judgments about firearms, and no firearms are ever used in the program. The Eddie Eagle program has no agenda other than accident prevention - ensuring that children stay safe should they encounter a gun.



**If you see a gun: STOP!**



**Don't Touch.**



**Leave the Area.**



**Tell an Adult.**