

RESOURCES

BOOKS/MOVIES

The Gorp's Gift
by Sherri Clessen

Ages 4-8
www.thegorp.com

Just One Flick of a Finger
by Marybeth Lorbecki & David Diaz
Ages 9-12
Booksmart
1-800-527-8796

The Butter Battle Book
by Dr. Seuss

All Ages
Random House

The Iron Giant
Available on video from Warner Bros.

Rated PG

FAMILY RESOURCES

Join Together On-line

441 Stuart Street
Boston, MA 02116
617-437-1500

www.jointogether.org

A project of Boston University School of Public Health, a national resource for communities fighting substance abuse and gun violence.

Keeping Kids Safe:

**A Kit for Caring Communities
National Crime Prevention Council**
1000 Connecticut Avenue
13th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

202-466-6272

www.ncpc.org

Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, bullying, conflict management, media literacy, positive peer groups, respecting differences, neighborhood & home safety, traffic safety, featuring McGruff the Crime Dog.

**Connecticut Safe Kids Coalition,
and the Violence Prevention Program
Connecticut Children's Medical Center**

282 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106

860-545-9988

www.ccmckids.org

Provides educational and technical assistance, products, and materials to support community safety projects.

Time Out

Peace Education Foundation
1900 Biscayne Blvd.

Miami, FL 33132

305-576-5075

www.peace-education.com

Manual offers tools for parents to handle conflict to create a more loving and caring environment.

TEACHER RESOURCES

Violence Prevention Resource Guide for Connecticut Schools - 1999

Developed by the Connecticut Department of Education in association with the Connecticut Collaborative for Education Against Gun Violence

www.state.ct.us/sde

ANTI-VIOLENCE ORGANIZATIONS

Connecticut Collaborative for Education Against Gun Violence

P.O. Box 523
Southport, CT 06890

203-268-3050

www.cceagv.org

email: CCEAGV@aol.com

Americans for Gun Safety

Washington, DC

www.americansforgunsafety.com



Connecticut Collaborative for
Education Against Gun Violence

Arm your child with information

STEPS EVERY FAMILY CAN TAKE TO HELP
PROTECT THEIR CHILDREN AND THE
COMMUNITY FROM GUN VIOLENCE



TALK WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT GUNS

What would your child do if she/he came across a gun in a friend's home or on the playground? Be sure your child understands the dangers involved and the difference between toy guns and real ones. Teach them what to do:

- Always assume any gun you see has bullets in it
- Don't touch it under any circumstances
- Get away from the gun as quickly as possible
- Tell an adult immediately

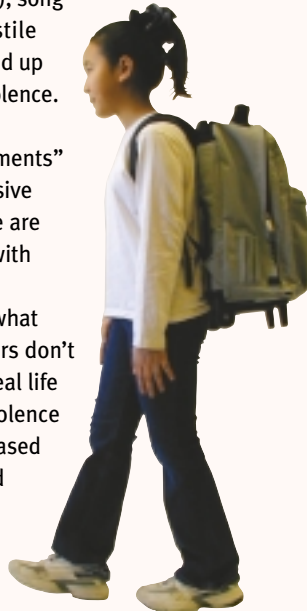
ASK ABOUT GUNS IN THE HOME

Are there guns where your children play? Before your child goes for a play date or sleepover, ask candidly if there is a gun in the house and how the gun is stored. Guns should be kept under lock and key, and ammunition should be stored separately, *but many guns aren't stored safely*. In a survey of 806 parents nationally, 43% of households with children have guns, and 23% of gun households keep a gun loaded. 28% keep a gun hidden but unlocked. To learn more about *how* to talk with your neighbors about gun safety, go to www.AskingSavesKids.com.

CREATE A NON-VIOLENT CULTURE FOR KIDS

Research tells us that continued exposure to violent images desensitizes children to the real dangers of gun violence. Take an honest look at how many violent images or influences are reaching your family: home and arcade video games, "toy" guns, television (including news and adult programs overheard while being viewed by other family members), song lyrics, movies, or a bullying or a hostile environment at school. These can all add up to shape your child's acceptance of violence.

Use these occasions as "teaching moments" to illustrate for your child that aggressive or violent actions seen in everyday life are not acceptable, and are inconsistent with your family's values and beliefs. For younger children, be sure they know what they see on television is not real. Actors don't die when they are shot on TV, but in real life people do. Higher levels of viewing violence on television are correlated with increased acceptance of aggressive attitudes and increased aggressive behavior. (American Psychological Association Commission on Youth and Violence, 1993)



GIVE YOUR CHILD THE SKILLS TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS:

Help your child understand and deal with conflict.



HOW TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

- 1 What is the problem?
- 2 What are some solutions?
- 3 For each solution, ask:
Is it safe? Is it fair? How might people feel? Will it work?
- 4 Choose a solution and use it.
- 5 Is it working? If not, what can I do now?

GUN SAFETY IN THE HOME

Consult your local police department about gun safety classes and state laws on gun storage. Make sure that your gun is stored safely and legally.

GUN STORAGE

- **Always keep a gun in a locked container.** Be sure the key or combination is inaccessible to children, or anyone else you don't want using the gun.
- **Never keep a gun loaded.** This includes the round in the chamber that can be left when a magazine is removed.
- **Always keep a trigger lock on a gun.**
- **Store ammunition away from a gun.**

IT'S THE LAW

A parent or guardian must store a loaded firearm in such a manner that a child is not able to gain access to it without the adult's permission. If a child gains access to a weapon that is not stored safely, and causes injury or death of himself or another person, it is considered criminally negligent storage of a firearm, which is a class D felony. In addition, the gun owner can also be held liable for civil damages. (Please refer to Connecticut General Statutes § 29-37i, and § 53a-217a for full details.)

Connecticut Collaborative for
Education Against Gun Violence