



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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June is Home Safety Month

Safe Kids Pennsylvania wants you to have a safe and happy summer.

Mechanicsburg, Pa. –

Young kids have the highest risk of being injured at home because that's where they spend most of their time, but unintentional injury is still one of the leading causes of death for all children (ages 0-19). This June, Safe Kids PA is focusing on the safety of your home and family. Experts know that top risk areas of injury for kids at home include unsafe sleep environments, places with water, spaces around toxic substances, and anywhere near loaded and unlocked guns.

Here are some tips to help prevent a tragedy and better protect your family:

- **Practice safe sleep for babies** - Infants should sleep alone, on their back, in a crib (or other flat, firm sleeping device) in the same room as their caregiver(s) but not the same bed. All of these recommendations help to reduce the risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SIDS). [Complete safety recommendations for safe sleep can be found on the American Academy of Pediatrics website.](#)
- **Be safe around water** - Always supervise children when they are in or around water, whether that be in a bath, in a pool, or out in nature. There should be no distractions (like using a phone or reading) when supervising children around water, as drowning is one of the leading causes of death for children and can happen within minutes. [The Red Cross offers CPR trainings that can help in an emergency](#), as does [the American Heart Association](#) and many other organizations.
- **Prevent poisoning** - Medication and harmful substances (cleaning supplies, alcohol, etc.) should be stored in their original containers, where children cannot see or reach them. Additionally, save the Poison Help number into your phone and post it visibly in your home: 1-800-222-1222. Specialists at poison control centers provide free, confidential, expert medical advice 24 hours a day. They help with poison emergencies and can also answer questions about medicine safety.
- **Store firearms safely** - If there are guns present in a home, it is vital to ensure those guns are both unloaded and locked in a place where children cannot access them. Ammunition should also be stored separately. [Be sure to ask about guns and safe storage if your child is going to someone else's house](#), and learn more about gun safety and children by [visiting Project ChildSafe, an educational program created by gun owners, for gun owners.](#)

For more information about these safety tips or to learn more about home safety, visit our website at www.pasafekids.org.

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Safe Kids Pennsylvania (SKPA) is part of Safe Kids Worldwide's global network dedicated to keeping kids safe from preventable childhood injury, which is the number one cause of death among children ages 1 to 19. These injuries range from accidental falls, to poisonings, car crashes, drownings, and many more. SKPA promotes and supports childhood injury prevention activities through education, collaboration, and advocacy throughout Pennsylvania. Safe Kids Pennsylvania is one of many statewide coalitions under Safe Kids Worldwide, and is led by the American Trauma Society, PA Division. For more information on Safe Kids PA, visit our website at <https://www.pasafekids.org/> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/safekidspa/>.