



Power NO: Guns & Weapons



Bold Text: suggested words to say to teach lesson
Italics: suggested actions to take
(Parenthesis): background information or suggested answers

After **Check First**, the remaining lessons may be covered in any order. Be sure to cover the lesson on Power NO: Pressures before this one.

Materials Needed for Lessons

- Charlie Check-First poster
- 3 Steps poster
- *Backpack* poster
- Check-First / 3 Steps symbol card
- Power NO symbol card (and any other topics you plan to cover)
- Reinforcement Activities (optional)
- Letter to the Parents/Guardian

Objectives for Students

- Identify legal and illegal reasons to have a gun.
- Name at least three safety rules to follow concerning a gun.
- Explain why a gun does not *solve problems*.
- State what to do if they come in contact with a gun.

Introduction or Review of Past Lessons

Decide which topics you plan to teach for your session and put those corresponding symbol cards inside the poster pocket before you begin.

Always start with a review of the Check First concept!

Using the Backpack poster, introduce the lesson as described in the Introduction under Safety Poster Teaching Procedure.

As you introduce a topic, a student (or teacher) removes and displays the symbol card from inside the pocket.

Proceed with the lesson.

Lesson

Symbol Card



Remove the Power NO symbol card from the poster pocket. Flex arms to show muscles and strength. Say NO in a strong, assertive voice.

This is the Power NO! The Power NO gives you the ability to be in charge of your body concerning what harms you and what is safe for you.

There are three steps for the Power NO:

- 1. Say NO.**
- 2. Get away from the situation.**
- 3. Tell an adult.**

An easy way to remember the steps is: NO! GO! TELL!

Today we are going to discuss how the Power NO applies to guns and weapons. Guns have been around since the fourteenth century. Let's see how much you know about guns; what is true and what is not true.

**Reinforcement
Activity
1**

You may choose to use this worksheet now, or you may use it later as another lesson or review. If you do it now, have the students work individually or in pairs to complete it before you begin. Go over each correct answer as you teach..

Since their very beginning, guns have had numerous benefits as well as harmful consequences. One of the original purposes of a gun was to aid in hunting. But it did not take long before guns were used on people as well as animals. People keep guns for different reasons. Let's look at the worksheet.

Questions # 1 and # 2

Are there any legal reasons to have a gun? (yes) Name some of them.

(hunting, recreational target shooting, protection, for some types of work)

What are some illegal reasons? (to frighten or threaten others, to *solve* problems, to feel important, for force in situations such as robbery, drug deals, bodily harm)

Questions # 3 and #4

Even if a person keeps a gun legally, that person needs to follow safety rules.

What are some safety rules for guns? (Never point a gun [toy or real, loaded or unloaded] at anyone, always use gun locks, do not leave a gun loaded, take a firearms safety class.) Discuss.

Question # 5

How many homes in America have firearms?

Ask one half of the class to stand up.

On an average, roughly this many kids from a class our size have guns in their homes. Multiply this number by 10 million (more or less depending upon size of group) **and that is about how many homes have guns in them!**

The students who are standing should remain standing for the next question.

How many of those firearms are kept loaded?

Ask one half of those standing to sit down. (The amount of students left standing gives a rough idea of how many kids in this room would have access to a loaded gun.)

Discuss: Why are there so many guns? Where are they kept? Is this safe?

Question # 6

Are there less than 300 children who are home alone and are able to come in contact with a gun in their home? There are more! Lots more! Over one million children have access to a gun or weapon when they are alone!

Discuss: Is this important? Do you think they know how to get hold of the guns? Do you think they know how to handle them properly?

Are you really safe if you keep a gun in your home? Guns kept in the home for protection are more likely to kill a family member or friend than an intruder!

Discuss: Why? Does this defeat the purpose of the gun as protection?
(What are the laws in your state regarding shooting an intruder?)

Questions # 7 and #8

Can you SOLVE social problems by using a gun? Discuss. (Social problems refers to emotional or physical problems with other people. This is different than shooting an animal that is disturbing you or your house.)

Some people, especially teenagers and young adults, feel that they can solve social problems by using a gun. Is this true? Are you really more powerful? Could you be causing more problems than you are solving?

Discuss: types of problems they could cause, consequences of these actions, what does it actually solve, etc. (This can be a very lengthy and healthy discussion.)

Possessing or using a gun to feel important, to force someone to do something, or to be in control can lead to serious consequences of injury or death; not only to others, but to yourself as well.

Question # 9

How many kids are killed by a gun each week?

Ask 14 children to come to the front of the room. Point out the 14 empty seats and the void these kids left in the group.

Every day, 14 children under the age of 20 are killed and many more are wounded by guns. Just look at the impact that made on our class.

Discuss the magnitude of this fact.

Questions # 10, #11, # 12

Is it true that if you find a gun, you should check to see if it is real and then give it to an adult?

This is absolutely false! You need to follow the 3 steps in the Power NO:

- 1. Say NO to touching it.**
- 2. Get away from the situation.**
- 3. Tell an adult.**

Discuss.

What other kinds of weapons might you see or encounter that may be dangerous or harmful to you? *Discuss.* (knives, explosives, even hypodermic needles and lead pipes can be used as a weapon)

If you are not alone and someone else wants you to touch, hold, or shoot the gun, use one of the Refusal Skills we discussed.

Review the basic Refusal Skills:

1. Say NO! Say it in a variety of ways. Repeat it. Mean it. Be strong!
2. Make up an excuse or give a reason why you cannot do something.
3. Offer an alternative activity.
4. Ignore the pressure and change the subject.
5. Leave the situation. Walk away.
6. Stay with a buddy! It is easier to refuse if you are with a buddy who also resists.
7. Avoid the pressure. Stay away from situations and people that will be hard to resist.

Evaluate the whole situation. Make a smart decision. Use whatever technique works for you!

Closure

A gun is a tool that can be used for legal purposes and can also be used for illegal reasons and for harm. A gun and other weapons should be taken seriously and never used as a toy or as a joke.

Since it is not always easy to tell a real or loaded gun from a fake or unloaded gun, the safest thing to do is not to touch it.

Review the 3 steps to take in the Power NO for guns:

1. Say NO to touching it.
2. Get away from the situation.
3. Tell an adult.



When you are in doubt about any situation involving a gun or weapon, just Check First.

Check First before you do anything involving a gun or weapon!

If you cannot check, follow the 3 Steps to: Judge, Think, and Act!

★ *Allow time for discussion.*



Be a Safety Kid!



Power NO: Guns Reinforcement Activity #1

Match up the beginning of the sentence with the correct ending. Write the letter for the correct ending on the blank.

1. It is legal to use a gun for _____
2. It is illegal to use a gun for _____
3. An important safety rule is to _____
4. It is unsafe to _____
5. Half of the firearms in homes _____
6. Over a million children who are home alone _____
7. Some people think a gun _____
8. You really do not solve problems _____
9. Every day 14 children _____
10. If you find a gun you should _____
11. One thing to NOT do if you see a gun is to _____
12. Get away from the situation and tell an adult _____

**I know gun
safety rules.
Do you?**



- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>A. say NO to touching it.</p> <p>B. are killed by a gun.</p> <p>C. recreational hunting.</p> <p>D. if you find or have access to a gun.</p> <p>E. always use gun locks.</p> <p>F. leave a gun loaded.</p> <p>G. a robbery or drug deal.</p> | <p>H. are kept loaded.</p> <p>I. makes them feel important.</p> <p>J. by using a gun.</p> <p>K. check to see if it is real.</p> <p>L. can come in contact with a gun at home.</p> |
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Power NO: Guns Reinforcement Activity # 1 Answers

Match up the beginning of the sentence with the correct ending. Write the letter for the correct ending on the blank.

1. C It is legal to use a gun for recreational hunting
2. G It is illegal to use a gun for a robbery or drug deal.
3. E An important safety rule is to always use gun locks.
4. F It is unsafe to leave a gun loaded.
5. H Half of the firearms in homes are kept loaded
6. L Over a million children who are home alone can come in contact with a gun at home.
7. I Some people think a gun makes them feel important.
8. J You really do not solve problems by using a gun.
9. B Every day 14 children are killed by a gun.
10. A If you find a gun you should say NO to touching it.
11. K One thing to NOT do if you see a gun is to check to see if it is real.
12. D Get away from the situation and tell an adult if you find or have access to a gun.




Power NO: Guns Reinforcement Activity # 2

Decode these safety rules. In the blank, write the letter that comes *before* the printed letter.

A

O F W F S Q P J O U B

H V O



B


B M X B Z T V T F H V O

M P D L T

C

E P O P U M F B W F B

H V O M P B E F E



D

U B L F B G J S F B S N T

T B G F U Z D M B T T



Power NO: Guns
Reinforcement Activity # 2 Answers

A

Never point a gun.

B

Always use gun locks.

C

Do not leave a gun loaded.

D

Take a firearms safety class.