



SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH and PARKS



Hunter Safety and Firearm Education (HuntSAFE).....



Hunter Safety and Firearm Education (HuntSAFE) in a school?



Yes, we can!!





HuntSAFE for Schools

- Follows same International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) standards as traditional class
- Part of the school curriculum
- Usually offered in P.E. or Agriculture/Natural resources class
- We provide a sample class schedule, lesson plans, and supplies

South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks
Hunt SAFE in the Schools
 Hunt SAFE for Schools
 Course Format Outlines

Option 1: 5-day school week

For homework each day, assign the students a section of the student handbook to read based on the next day's topic(s). If desired, make the students bring in one written question from the section as part of their participation grade and to reinforce the assignment (providing index cards helps with this).

Be prepared to be flexible! Each school and classroom is different. You may be using a small classroom, large classroom, gym, outside commons, lunchroom, etc. for some of the scenarios, depending on the school.

Day	Topic(s)	Supplies	Process
1 Ch. 1	Introduction Expectations 10 Commandments	Student handbooks Hunt SAFE pens DVD "The Last Shot" DVD player or laptop Projector white board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of expectations (e.g. participation, behavior, etc.) • Go over 10 Commandments (or even Top 5) • Hand out pens & explain that they need to treat them as if they're firearms while they watch the video • Watch "The Last Shot," possibly stopping when the boy slips • Class discussion on good & bad behaviors seen • Instructor observations on pen use in class (good & bad)
2*	Rules & regulations	Laptop & projector Hunting handbooks	Conservation Officer visit & presentation
3 Ch. 2 pp. 6-14; 17-20	Parts of a firearm Correct ammunition	Laptop & projector HE Tools Dummy firearms*** Dummy ammunition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go through action types & functions on HE Tools, reinforcing with dummy firearms • Teach how to distinguish ammunition types & appropriate use (stamps on barrels & brass caps) • Show demo video on HE Tools about using the wrong ammo • Have students match up dummy ammo with dummy firearms

Why?



- Reaches students who may not have taken HuntSAFE on their own
 - Exposes them to firearm safety, hunting, and positive interaction with Conservation Officers
- Fits into busy schedules
- Helps to normalize firearms and firearm safety by incorporating it into a student's daily life

HuntSAFE is growing!

- As of Winter 2019, 8 schools across the state
- Currently have over 40 schools participating
- 2022 Teacher Academy had 22 new teachers trained
- Jackson's senior project



Variation in Class Type

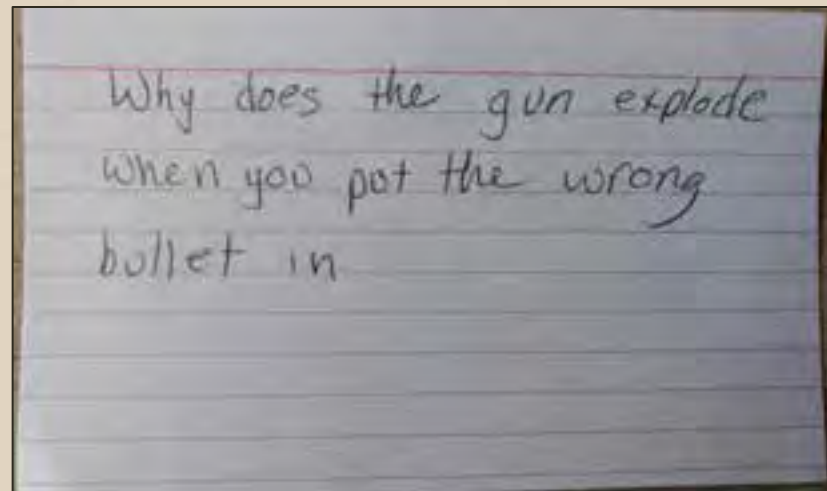
- Same curriculum
- Provided to students is various ways
 - New Underwood: 6th-8th grades as a required unit in PE
 - Douglas MS: 7th-8th grades as a “personal choice” elective
 - RC Stevens: Unit in Wildlife & Fisheries and Natural Resources classes





Typical class format

- Lessons are set up for 10 one-hour classes
 - Covers all the same topics as traditional class
 - Fits better with short attention spans
 - Provides numerous opportunities to repeat the important points
- Lots of hands-on activities
- Usually held in a gym
- Many creative ways to teach the different topics



















Live-Fire

Optional

- Not affiliated
- Coordinate with local instructors to provide a Field Day
- Buss students to a range during school day



Challenges

- School schedules may vary
- Different schools have different levels of flexibility and restrictions
 - Administrators may be hesitant or resistant
 - Inert training firearms **vs** Nerf guns **vs** broom sticks
 - No live-fire **vs** bussing students to a range
 - Emphasizing firearm safety over hunting skills
- Gym use



Teacher Academy



- Offer HuntSAFE Instructor certification for College or Graduate level credit



Looking ahead

- Continue expanding into new schools
- Reconnect with schools that may have lost momentum after getting trained





SOUTH DAKOTA



Game, Fish
& Parks



@BERGERAARON

FACEBOOK · TWITTER · INSTAGRAM

#SDINTHEFIELD
SHARING THE
STORIES OF **YOU.**



@DEREKBAUNE



@JONKLEMME



@MGARRY85



SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH and PARKS

Habitat and Access Priority

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Custer, SD – June 2022

Overview



- Fish and wildlife resource stewardship responsibilities
- Provide opportunities for public use and enjoyment of resources
- Public lands are the cornerstone
- Most land in South Dakota is privately owned
- Success requires partnerships to achieve habitat and access goals

Overview



- GFP Private Lands Habitat Biologists - primary points of contact
- All GFP staff - habitat and access program information/training
- Funding - hunters and anglers – priority to private landowners providing reasonable public hunting and fishing access
- Goal - Provide excellent customer service



Habitat and Access Plan

- Identify priority habitats and access needs on public and private lands and waters across South Dakota
- Identify priority fish and wildlife species - including SGCN - and the landscapes and ecosystems on which they depend
- Identify opportunities to create, restore, enhance, and protect habitat and secure public hunting and fishing access



Habitat and Access Plan

- Ensure a desire by landowners to participate in the programs
- How much habitat and access is needed to meet needs and expectations
- Habitat and access goals established at the local level

