

Northwest Territories
Safety Around Firearms
Challenge



**Guider Handbook
and Answer Key**

**Girl Guides of Canada
Guides du Canada
Aurora Adventures Area
Council**



Sponsored by:

**Northwest Territories
Law Foundation**

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Adventures Area

*Safety Around Firearms Challenge –
Guider Handbook & Answer Key*

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Northwest Territories/Nunavut Council



IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

The complete *Safety Around Firearms* package consists of:

The Guider Handbook – gives detailed information about the challenge, along with discussion guidelines, background information, and resources needed to complete the challenge.

The **Request Form for the Challenge Crests** is located on the last page of the Guider Handbook. **Use this to order your crests.**

Please follow what is listed for your age group. However, you can do other sections if your girls would like to try them.

We recommend that you invite a qualified individual to assist with the challenge, such as a Certified Range Officer, RCMP member, Wildlife Officer, Canadian Ranger, Certified Safety Instructor or a Federal Enforcement Officer. You may also wish to invite an Elder or Elders to assist.

You must abide by the Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada **Safe Guide** at all times. You can obtain a current copy of the Safe Guide by downloading it from the National Girl Guide website.

The *Safety Around Firearms Challenge* is designed for Guiders and girls who live in rural/remote areas and often encounter firearms in their day to day lives. Guiders and girls who have little direct knowledge of firearms will also find the challenge accessible. You do not need to have taken the "Canadian Firearms Safety Course" to offer the challenge unless you personally are showing a firearm with ammunition.

Safety Around Firearms Challenge

- GUIDER HANDBOOK & ANSWER KEY-

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Introduction

Why Have A *Safety Around Firearms* Challenge?

The idea came when there was interest at the National level in changing the rules of Guiding so as to prohibit the presence of firearms at any Girl Guide sanctioned activities. The members of the NWT/Nunavut Council realized this would mean an end to camping in Nunavut and in most parts of the NWT as well, since parents don't allow their girls out on the land, and many leaders do not feel safe without protection from polar, grizzly and black bears.

In the end, Guides Canada decided *not* to make that rule change and in the course of our debate around the Territorial Council table, we realized firearms safety was very much in tune with our Organization's values and philosophy:

- ✱ Our **mission** challenges Members in their personal development and empowers them to be responsible citizens – safe use of firearms is part of being a responsible citizen in the north and in rural/remote Canada;
- ✱ We are to **use our resources wisely** when we abide by the Guide Law – and for many northern families who rely on country food, firearms are essential to their well-being;
- ✱ Guiding is a **diverse organization** with the philosophy of offering 'fun with a purpose' – firearms are an important part of the North and training in firearms safety and history respects this.

In Guiding, females can do it all and do not feel the pressure society traditionally places on them. This includes firearms use. For example, in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories girls as young as seven are out hunting caribou with their families and many female biologists carry firearms as a regular practice during field surveys.

Above all, our *Safety Around Firearms* Challenge is about helping our members respect and abide by the laws of our territories, consistent with our Organization's Code of Conduct.

Members of all ages can benefit from increased knowledge about firearms and awareness of their own relationship to firearms use. We will be delighted to see girls and adults from across Canada undertake this challenge as a result.

NWT/Nunavut Council
March 2006

Purpose

Many Guiding Members in the North are from households where firearms are found and used. The *Safety Around Firearms* Challenge will teach and/or reinforce safe and appropriate behaviour around firearms and the people who use them. The challenge is designed so that *all* youth members can participate, regardless of age. It uses a combination of learning techniques including arts and physical activity.

Credits: Guiders Jara Rausch and Eileen Hendry (the challenge), former girl member Jessica Fournier (the crest design).

Challenge Structure

Branch	Challenge Sections										Total to be Completed
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
Sparks	✓		✓	✓							3
Brownies	✓	○	✓	○		◆	◆				4
Guides	✓	✓	✓		◆	○	◆	○			5
Pathfinders	✓	✓	✓		◆	○	✓	○	◆		6
Sr Branches and/or Adults	✓	✓	○		✓		✓	✓	✓	○	7

✓ = Must do this Section

○ = Must do *one* of these Sections

◆ = Must do *one* of these Sections

A The Basics

B Parts of a Firearm

C Role Play

D Art

E Gun Laws

F Word Search

G Firearm History and Use

H Debate

I Research

J Hands-on Knowledge

Use the Order Form at the back of this package to obtain your crests.

Challenges

Section A: The Basics

1. What is a firearm? What can they be used for?

A firearm is commonly known as a gun, but is also known by many other names, e.g. rifle, handgun. Invite girls to contribute slang terms, brand names, the name in other languages, etc.

There are many types of firearms because they can be used for different purposes. Invite girls to describe how they or their families use firearms, or how they've seen them used, whether in person, in books or on TV. Examples: hunting, target shooting, personal safety on the land.

LEGAL DEFINITION: A barreled weapon from which any shot, bullet or other projectile can be discharged.

2. Why do people think firearms are dangerous?

Discussion should note that firearms can hurt people in different ways – not just the person who is hit by a bullet, but if the firearm isn't properly cared for, the person using it can also be hurt. Note also that bullets/ammunition can be dangerous too.

Firearms shoot a projectile at very high speed, which can hurt or kill a person or animal. It can do this close up or from quite far away such as 1 to 4 kilometers. Check the Canadian Firearms Centre Non-restricted Training Manual for more complete information.

Some things to keep in mind so you do not get hurt around firearms:

- ✱ always treat a firearm as if it is loaded (has bullets in it)
- ✱ do not point the firearm at anyone – and don't let it be pointed at you
- ✱ do not play with the gun and make sure others don't too
- ✱ (for Sparks/Brownies or girls who don't live with firearms) do not touch the gun and don't let other kids touch it

Ask girls if they have handled firearms – and if yes, under what circumstances. Remember, many girls live with guns and go out on the land with their families. Find out what safety measures they take in their family.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: "Firearms are not dangerous, if they are left alone, but untrained people with firearms can be very dangerous. If you can keep untrained people and firearms apart, no one can be hurt." (NFA, 1999)

3. How do people make them safe?

When dealing with firearms “making them safe” means making sure that no matter what, the firearm cannot go off accidentally. There are several ways to do this:

- ✱ Make sure there are no bullets in the firearm
- ✱ Use a ‘trigger lock’
- ✱ Store the firearm in a gun safe, locked case, or locked closet
- ✱ Store the ammunition in a different location from the firearm(s)

4. What should you do if you find a firearm?

The answer varies, depending on if girls are familiar with firearms or not. Focus discussion around the idea of finding a firearm lying somewhere, with no one around. *Encourage discussion about the girls’ general comfort level around firearms.*

FOR GIRLS UNFAMILIAR WITH FIREARMS:

If you find a firearm this is what you should do.

- ✱ Do not touch the firearm
- ✱ Tell any kids around you not to touch the firearm
- ✱ Tell your parents or a responsible adult about the firearm, ask them to put it in a safe place
- ✱ If possible, leave the area right away

(Women Against Gun Violence, 2002)

FOR GIRLS WHO LIVE WITH AND/OR ARE FAMILIAR WITH FIREARMS:

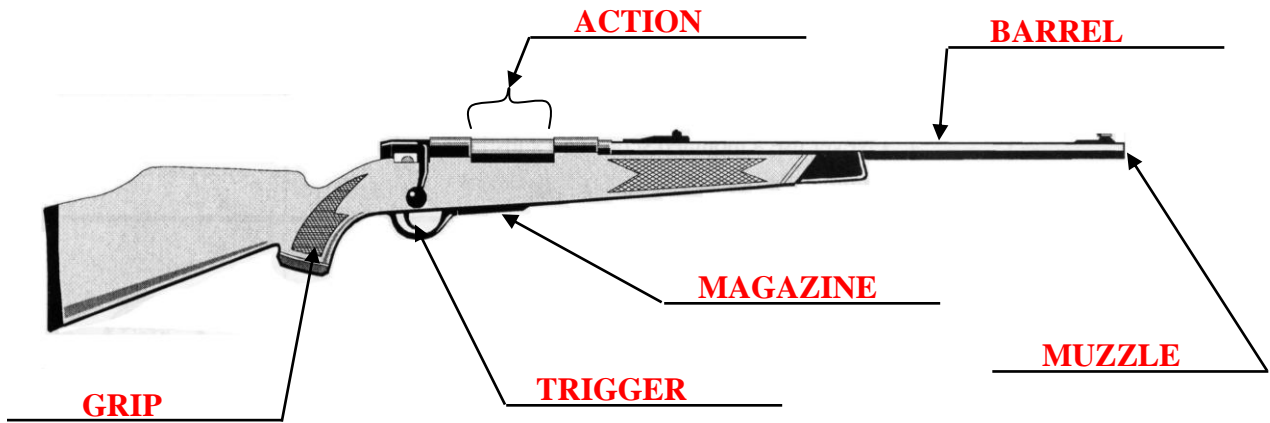
If you find a firearm, your actions depend on *where* you are and who the firearm belongs to.

- ✱ If you know the firearm, but it’s not in the right place, then treat it as if it is loaded. Keep people away from the muzzle. If you are familiar with the use of THIS firearm, pick it up carefully, do not touch the trigger, keep muzzle pointed up or in a safe direction, make the firearm safe and put it in its storage space – then tell an adult what you’ve done
- ✱ If you don’t know the firearm, treat it as loaded, keep people away from the muzzle and do not touch it if possible. If it is in a dangerous location (e.g. on a table, pointed at people) then ask the people to move away from the muzzle. Watch that no one touches the firearm and send a friend to get a responsible adult to make it safe. If you are alone, do not touch the firearm, go find a responsible adult and tell them that you have found a firearm and ask that they make it safe.
- ✱ If possible, leave the area right away

Section B: Parts of a Firearm

Label the firearm diagram with its important parts. (Appendix 1 has unlabelled diagram)

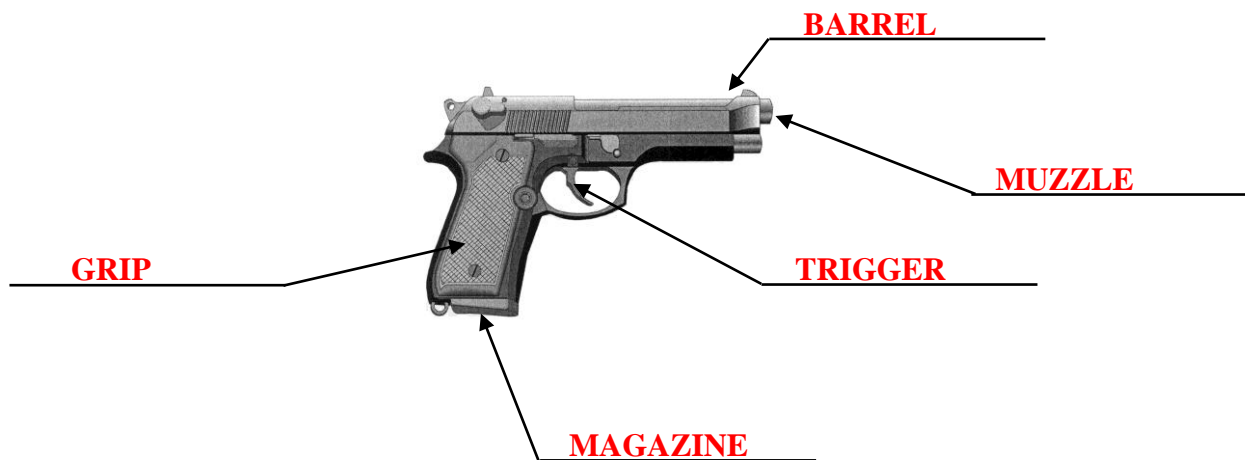
This firearm is called a RIFLE.



Words

Trigger	Rifle	Barrel
Muzzle	Handgun	Magazine
Grip	Action	

This firearms is called a HANDGUN.



(Images taken from the Canadian Firearms Safety Course Student Handbook, 1998)

Section C: Role Play

Act out what to do if you find a firearm.

Suggest different scenarios – handgun on the kitchen table, firearm on the ground, firearm in proximity to irresponsible person (goofing around, angry and/or drunk). Older girls can develop scenarios for themselves. Feel free to use 'real life' stories.

Girls should focus on personal safety first, safety of others next. They need to remember they should look to responsible adults for assistance and feel free to call RCMP if they feel threatened/unsafe.

Section D: Art

Colour in 'Terri the Ptarmigan' (Appendix 2)

Ask the girls to suggest what kind of advice "Terri" might have for being safe around firearms. (Try to reinforce learning from Section A)

Or

Draw a picture of a safe way to use a firearm.

Try to reinforce learning from Section A

Section E: Gun Laws

1. What are the rules of having a firearm?

Note: this is a brief summary of the regulations for non-restricted firearms; there are other regulations that are not mentioned. Also note that there are aboriginal adaptations to the regulations – check with your local First Nation, Inuit Association or Métis local for more details. For example, there are different rules for subsistence hunters. For a complete set of regulations please see the Firearms Act or the Understanding Canada's Firearms Law publication. http://www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca/media/guide/default_e.asp

The Firearms Act states that all firearms must be registered with the Canadian Government.

To purchase ammunition, have a firearm in your possession, or purchase a firearm you must have a license.

There are certain rules that must be followed in regards to storing, displaying, and transporting of firearms.

- ✱ Storing – must be unloaded, must either have a lock on the firearm or be locked in a secure container such as a gun safe or in a locked room, the ammunition must be locked in a separate container so it is not easily obtained.
- ✱ Displaying – must be unloaded, unable to be fired using a secure locking device or in a secure container or room, and in a place where ammunition is not displayed or easily obtained.
- ✱ Transporting – must be unloaded, if the vehicle is left unattended the firearm must be locked in a trunk or similar compartment of the vehicle.

2. How does a person get a license?

The types of licenses:

- ✱ Possession License for Minors – for people under 18 year old who use firearms
- ✱ Possession and Acquisition License - For adults who use firearms and want to be able to purchase them or borrow them or use government firearms.

To get one of these licenses you must take the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and pass the test at the end. Then you must fill out an application form and send it in

to the Canadian Government with a photograph of yourself. The Government will approve you for the license and send you your license.

A	K	P	S	A	F	E	T	Y	D	S	H	L
V	M	S	H	O	T	H	R	P	O	E	A	M
F	U	M	B	L	N	U	I	W	A	V	N	A
I	Z	P	U	F	S	T	G	A	K	L	D	G
R	Z	A	L	N	R	K	G	N	E	E	G	A
E	L	P	L	H	I	R	E	R	L	I	U	Z
A	E	D	E	C	P	T	R	F	A	F	N	I
R	L	I	T	J	K	A	I	D	T	L	P	N
M	S	A	R	E	B	R	L	O	C	K	H	E
S	H	E	T	K	U	N	I	L	N	F	E	W
F	I	R	E	A	R	M	S	A	C	T	U	D
C	E	A	S	E	F	I	R	E	B	A	L	C

3. How does Canada regulate firearms?
All rules in regards to firearms are outlined in the Firearms Act. This makes it a law to which Canadian citizens must obey. The Act also says that every firearm that is in Canada should be registered in a National database. The Government also tracks the purchasing and selling of firearms.
4. Why does Canada regulate firearms?
The goal of regulating firearms is to make sure that they are used and stored safely so that they are not used intentionally or unintentionally to hurt or kill a person. The regulations also give the Government a say in who can purchase firearms and ammunition and by making everyone take the Canadian Firearm Safety Course they can ensure that those using and purchasing firearms use them safely.

Section F

Complete the word search. (Appendix 3)

As the girls complete the word search go over the definitions of the words in the search.

- AMMUNITION a cartridge containing a projectile designed to be discharged from a firearm, including caseless cartridge and a shot shell.
- BARREL the metal tube of a firearm, the bullet, shot or projectile accelerates through it when the firearm is fired.
- TRIGGER the part of the firearm mechanism which releases the part of the action that fires the cartridge.
- FIREARMS ACT
- BULLET a projectile designed to be fired from a barrel.

- **CEASEFIRE** the most important word used around firearms while they are in use. As soon as it is heard the person using a firearm must stop what they are doing and make the firearm safe.
- **MAGAZINE** a device or container from which the ammunition may be fed into the firing chamber.
- **FIREARM**
- **LOCK** there are special trigger and action locks made for firearms.
- **MUZZLE** the opening at the end of the barrel from which the projectile exits.
- **HANDGUN** a firearm which is intended to be fired with one hand.
- **RIFLE** a shoulder firearm.
- **SAFETY** the most important thing!

(Department of Justice Canada, 1998)

Section G: Firearm History & Use

Invite a Canadian Ranger to your unit to tell you about what they do. If possible, ask him/her to bring along their rifle and be prepared to explain how they use it.

Or

Tell your unit the story behind a firearm important to you, your family or your community.

Or

Explore some of the activities that firearms have been used safely for.

Some of the activities that firearms are used safely for are hunting, for protection from wildlife such as bears, for target shooting, and for shooting sports such as biathlon. There are even shooting sports in the Olympics. Here is an article taken from the Olympics website:



OLYMPIC HISTORY

Shooting has been contested at most of the Olympic Games. The sport first appeared in 1896. There were also events in 1900, but none were contested during the 1904 and 1928 Games.

The programme has varied just as much as any of the other sports (with the possible exception of sailing/yachting). In 1908, 1912, 1920 and 1924 there were dozens of events, including multiple team events. Thus it was possible for shooters to win many medals at these Olympics. After a hiatus in 1928, the sport returned to the Olympics in 1932 with only two events - one for pistols and one for rifles. Since World War II the programme has become relatively standardized.

Women were first allowed to compete in Olympic shooting in 1968. In that year Mexico, Peru and Poland each entered one female contestant. In 1984 the International Shooting Union (UIT) now called the ISSF - International Shooting Sport Federation introduced separate events for women. Between 1984 and 1992 the number of women's events increased gradually. In addition, several of the events on the programme remained mixed, i.e. open to both men and women. As of 1996 in

Atlanta, the shooting programme was segregated, with men's events being separated from the women's.

Section H: Debate

Form two teams and debate the statement: *Rules for firearms use are necessary because people always act safely around guns.*

One team will support the statement, while the other will try to disprove the statement (*i.e. rules are necessary because people don't always act safely around guns*). Teams should 'talk through' their points ahead of time. Try to have each girl speak in the course of the debate.

Section I: Research

Read the *Understanding Canada's Firearms Law* publication. Discuss what you've read.

Copies of the publication are available from Canada Firearms Centre, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 1M6, or call [1-800-731-4000 \(toll-free\)](tel:1-800-731-4000), or fax (613) 957-7325, or can be downloaded from the internet at http://www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca/media/guide/default_e.asp

Section J: Hands-On Knowledge

Ask a Certified Range Officer, RCMP Member, Wildlife Officer, Resource Officer, Canadian Ranger, Certified Safety Instructor or a Federal Enforcement Officer to demonstrate how to handle a firearm safely, how to make a firearm safe and how to properly store a firearm.

Or

Take the Canadian Firearm Safety Course.

References

Canadian Government. 1999. Understanding Canada's Firearms Law. Canadian Firearms Centre.

Canadian Government. 1995. Firearms Act c.39. URL: laws.justice.gc.ca/en/F-11.6/60008.html

Common Sense About Kids and Guns. 2005. URL: www.kidsandguns.org/entryhall/index.asp

Department of Justice Canada. 1998. Canadian Firearms Safety Course Student Handbook.

National Firearms Association. 1999. Gun Proofing Your Child. www.nfa.ca

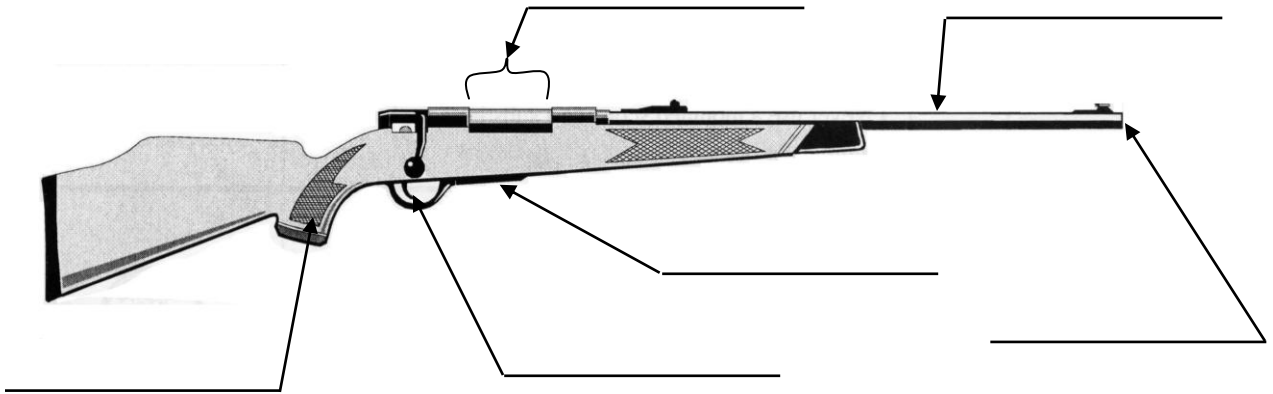
Official Website of the Olympic Movement. 2005. www.olympic.org

Women Against Gun Violence. 2002. "Keeping Kids Safe – How to Talk to Kids About Guns". www.wagv.org/kidsafe.htm

Firearm Diagram

Label the different parts of the two different firearms.

This firearm is called a _____.



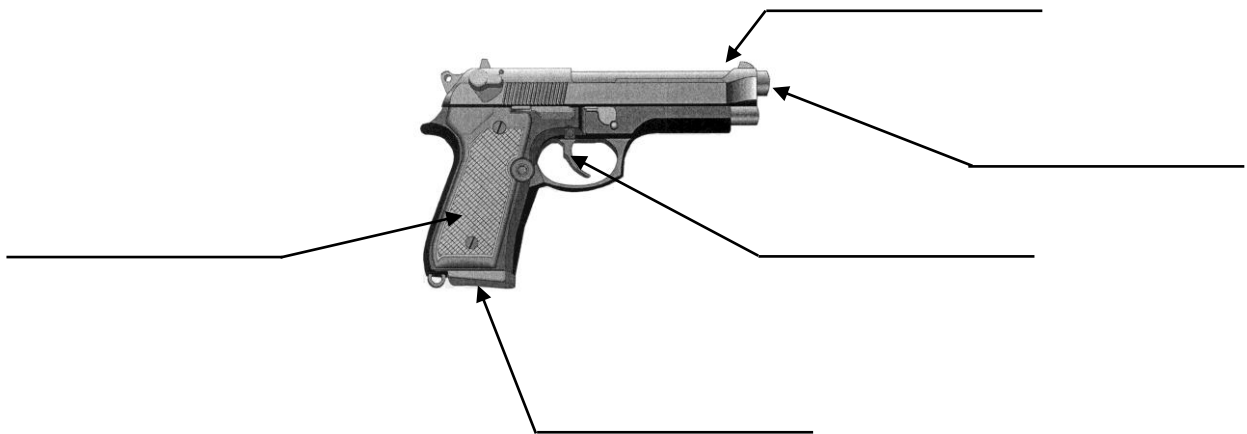
Words

Trigger
Muzzle
Grip

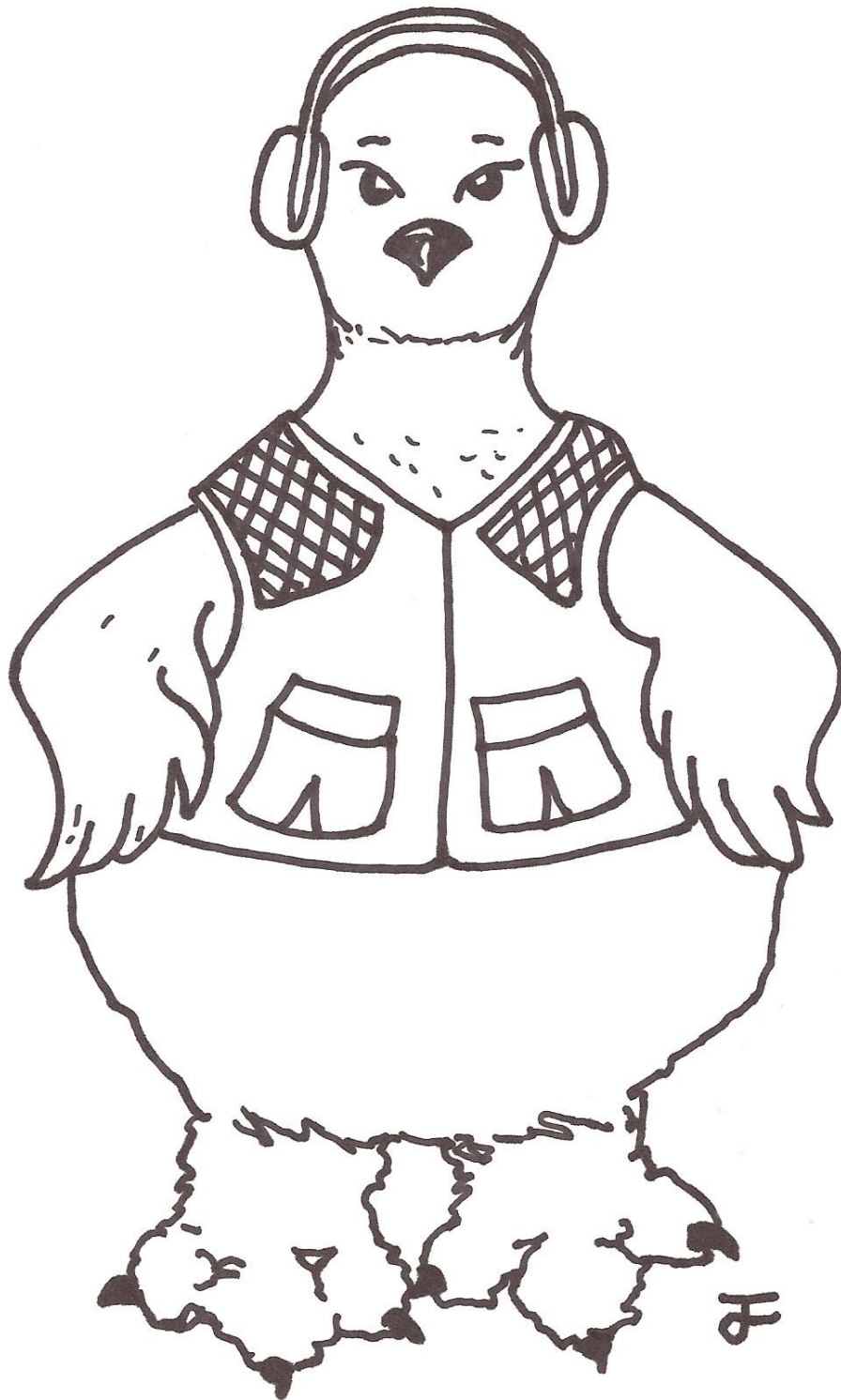
Rifle
Handgun
Action

Barrel
Magazine

This firearms is called a _____.



Terri the Ptarmigan
wants you to be safe around firearms!



Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada
Name: _____

Wordsearch

AMMUNITION	FIREARM
BARREL	LOCK
TRIGGER	MUZZLE
FIREARMS ACT	HANDGUN
BULLET	RIFLE
CEASEFIRE	SAFETY
MAGAZINE	

A	K	P	S	A	F	E	T	Y	D	S	H	L
V	M	S	H	O	T	H	R	P	O	E	A	M
F	U	M	B	L	N	U	I	W	A	V	N	A
I	Z	P	U	F	S	T	G	A	K	L	D	G
R	Z	A	L	N	R	K	G	N	E	E	G	A
E	L	P	L	H	I	R	E	R	L	I	U	Z
A	E	D	E	C	P	T	R	F	A	F	N	I
R	L	I	T	J	K	A	I	D	T	L	P	N
M	S	A	R	E	B	R	L	O	C	K	H	E
S	H	E	T	K	U	N	I	L	N	F	E	W
F	I	R	E	A	R	M	S	A	C	T	U	D
C	E	A	S	E	F	I	R	E	B	A	L	C

Name: _____

Please refer to the current



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

Safe Guide 2008

Activity Planning and Safety Management

Third Party Service Provider (TPSP)

Activity Specific Procedures

Page #69-70 to see if your group must fill in a TPSP Interview Checklist form
(SG.7)

Request Form for Safety Around Firearms Crests

Complete this request form and email to AuroraAdventuresProgram.GGC@gmail.com.

Requests from outside Aurora Adventures Area **must** include a cheque or money order for the cost of the crests (\$2.00 each, GST & postage extra), made out to "Girl Guides of Canada – Aurora Adventures Area".

Cheques can be mailed to:

Girl Guides of Canada
102-302 Steele Street
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C5
Attention: Program Adviser



Contact Person: _____

Unit Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Please check off the sections of the challenge completed by your unit:

Branch:	Challenge Sections Completed										Total Number Completed
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
Sparks											
Brownies											
Guides											
Pathfinders											
Rangers											
Adult Members											

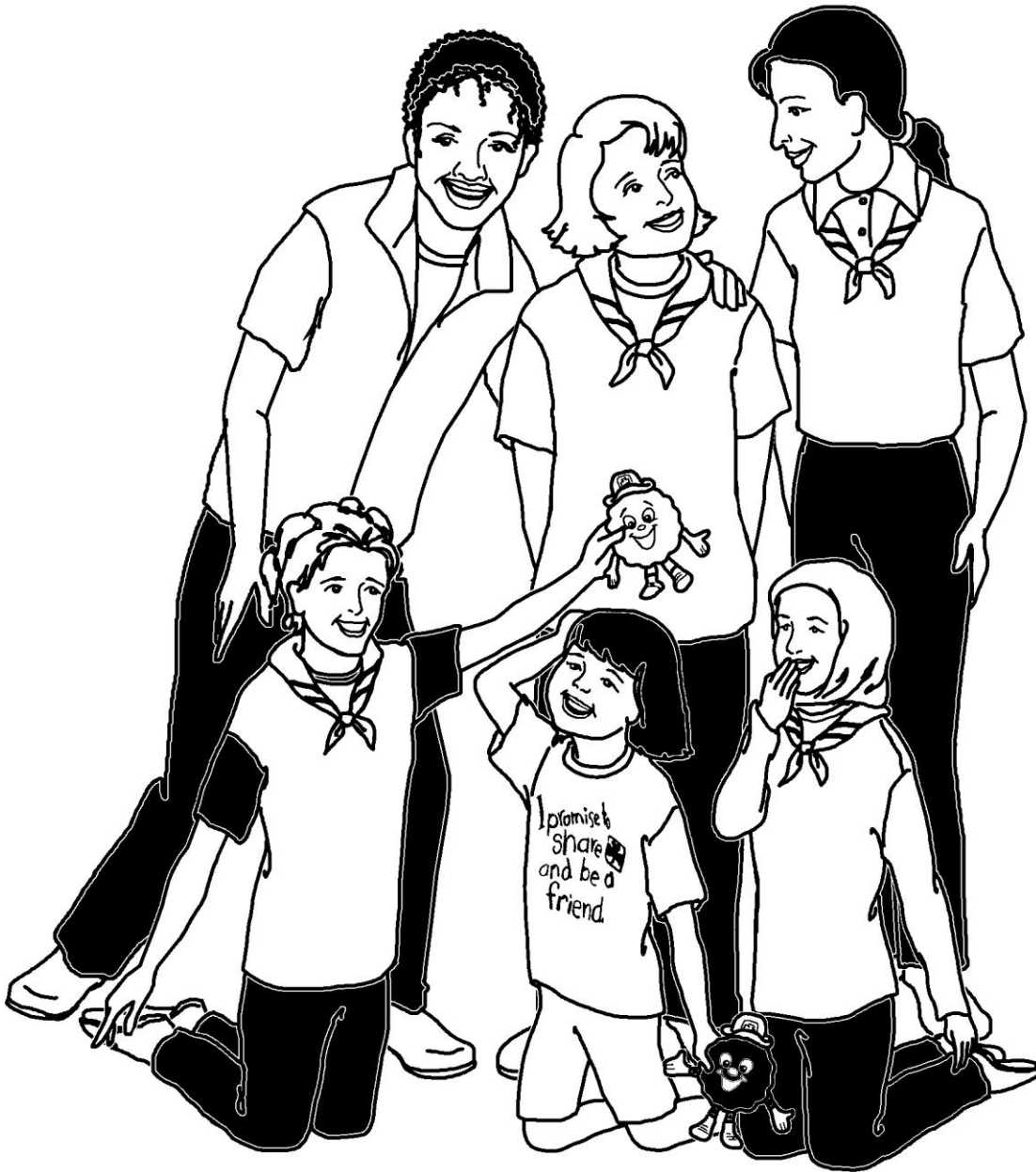
Date Challenge Completed: _____

Number of Crests Requested: Girls: _____ Adults: _____

Feedback on the challenge: (What worked? What would you have done differently?)

Northwest Territories

Safety Around Firearms Challenge



An interactive way to challenge Guiding Members in their personal development and empower them to be responsible citizens.

Thank You

Thank you to the **Northwest Territories Law Foundation** for sponsoring the *Safety Around Firearms* challenge. Funds were provided by the Law Foundation as part of their mandate to promote and educate the people of the Northwest Territories in matters of public legal education. The Foundation can be reached at: NWT Law Foundation, Box 2594, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P9 tel (867) 873-8275, fax (867) 873-6383, email: action@theedge.ca.



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