

Longview Safety City Teacher Resource Guide Motor Vehicle Safety



Educating children and families about safety in a creative, fun, interactive environment, to reduce the number of preventable injuries.

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MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

Motor vehicle crashes are by far the leading cause of unintentional injury-related deaths for children ages 14 and under.

ALWAYS RIDE BUCKLED UP IN THE BACK SEAT IN A CHILD SAFETY SEAT



Children should be properly restrained in booster seats until they are at least 8 years old, unless they are 4'9" tall, when they are usually big enough to wear a lap-shoulder belt.

Seat belts are the **MOST** effective way to reduce fatalities and serious injuries in a car crash. Seat belts actually save over 10,000 lives in America every year. They are designed so that the

forces in a crash are absorbed by the strongest areas of your body – the bones of your hips, shoulder and chest. The belt will hold your body in place!

RULE OF THUMB:

Children ages 12 and under should ride in the back seat. The safest place is in the center of the back seat.



Never place a shoulder strap under a child's arm or behind the back. If the strap crosses the child's face or throat, use a booster seat in addition to a safety belt.

WHAT IS THE CORRECT WAY TO WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT?

The lap portion of your seat belt should sit snugly along your pelvis/lap, **NEVER ACROSS YOUR STOMACH**. The shoulder belt should cross your chest and **NEVER** sit on your neck. **DO NOT** place the strap behind your back.

Family members need to act as good role models and use safety belts at all times.

Safe/Unsafe Journal Writing Lesson for Motor Vehicle Safety

Objective: Students will write creative stories in their Safety Journal about safe/unsafe behaviors using their knowledge of Motor Vehicle Safety.

Material needed:

- paper
- pencil
- Safety Journal
- 3 index cards

Procedure:

1. Begin by labeling the index cards (or whatever you have to use). On one card write **SAFE**. On one card write **UNSAFE**. On one card write **YOUR CHOICE**.
2. Have each child come to the front of the class and choose one of the cards that you will be holding.
3. The student or teacher will read the card out loud and the student will return the card to the teacher.
4. If the word **SAFE** is chosen, the student will draw a picture and write a creative story about a safe motor vehicle practice, i.e. riding in the back seat, wearing a safety belt, etc.
5. If the word **UNSAFE** is chosen, the student will draw a picture and write a creative story about an unsafe motor vehicle behavior, i.e. crawling all over the car, riding in the front seat, etc.
6. If the word **YOUR CHOICE** is chosen, the student will draw a picture and write a creative story about either a safe or an unsafe motor vehicle behavior, it is their choice!
7. Please encourage the students to be creative. Their stories do not have to be true.
8. When complete, allow students to read their stories to the class if they would like to.

