

Ideas for PTA Groups to Promote Car Safety for Children

1. Encourage parents of school-age children to:
 - a. Provide a booster seat and/or safety belt for each child on every ride.
 - b. Show older children why they need to be buckled up with a video, such as “Children and Infants: Restrained and Unrestrained,” or implement “Boosters Are For Big Kids” curriculum.
 - c. Insist on a booster seat and/or safety belt for every child during field trips, Scout/athletic team transportation. It’s the law!
 - d. Work with after-school programs to restrain children in vehicles when they collect the children from schools or take them on field trips.
 - e. Make sure safety belts and appropriate child restraints are used in buses and vans transporting children with special needs.
 - f. Utilize sources of more information on proper child restraint devices, such as “The Perfect Gift: Your Child’s Safety,” available from SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.
 - g. Show an educational/motivational video, such as “Don’t Risk Your Child’s Life IX,” or the “Boosters Are For Big Kids” DVD at a parent meeting.
2. Within the school program:
 - a. For K-3, introduce “Boosters Are For Big Kids” curriculum in classroom, at parent meetings. Covers the 5-Step Test, reasons to use boosters, has homework and classroom activities. Available from SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.
 - b. For 4th and 5th grades, introduce “Belt Use Basics” which is part of the “Boosters Are For Big Kids” program.
 - c. Include information on proper restraint use in the following programs:
 - 1) Driver education
 - 2) Family life electives
 - 3) Vocational programs for those who work with children
 - 4) Preschool centers attached to public/private schools
 - 5) Programs for pregnant teenagers
 - 6) Health education classes
 - d. Do a survey of safety belt usage by observing activity near the school in the morning and afternoon and publicize it in the school newsletter. (Forms available from SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.)
 - e. Sponsor a traffic safety poster and essay contest in the school.
 - f. Celebrate Safety Seat Checkup Week.
 - g. Join SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. and help spread the word through business, medical, preschool, law enforcement, and other professional communities.

For more information:

<p>SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. P.O. Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003 www.carseat.org 310/318-5111, 800/745-SAFE (English), 800/747-SANO (Spanish)</p>
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