CLASSROOM ACTIVITY KIT

With Guidelines for teaching children about occupant restraints and reproducible materials for classroom use.

BUCKLE UP, TENNESSEE

It's A Good Law To Live With!

Tennessee Law Requires:

Front Seat Driver and Occupants must be properly restrained or they can be ticketed. TCA 55-9-603.

All children under the age of 18 are required to be restrained in an age appropriate system according to the Child Passenger Protection Act. TCA 55-9-602.

TN Traffic Safety Resource Service
309 Conference Center Building
Knoxville, TN 37996-4133
1.800.99BELTS
www.tntrafficsafety.org
# TENNESSEE CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW

**Effective July, 2005 - Present**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s/Age/Weight/Height</th>
<th>Type of Seat</th>
<th>Location of Seat</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-1 year &amp; 20 lbs or Less</td>
<td>Rear-Facing</td>
<td>Rear Seat If Available*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 through 3 yrs &amp; Greater than 20 lbs</td>
<td>Forward-Facing</td>
<td>Rear Seat If Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 through 8 yrs &amp; Less than 4’9” Tall</td>
<td>Belt Positioning Booster Seat**</td>
<td>Rear Seat If Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 through 12 yrs or Greater than 4’9” Tall</td>
<td>Vehicle Seat Belt System</td>
<td>Rear Seat Recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 through 17 yrs</td>
<td>Vehicle Seat Belt System</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Seats must meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (§ 571.213) and be used according to child safety restraint system and vehicle manufacturer’s instructions.

- Any child who has special needs and cannot be safely transported in a conventional child restraint requires a doctor’s prescription for a specially modified seat.

- Proper occupant protection for children under age 16 is the responsibility of the parent, if present. Otherwise the driver is accountable for these passengers.

* NEVER place an infant in front of an airbag!
** Booster seats require both lap and shoulder belts!

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**Why Booster Seats?**

Young children who have outgrown their car seats are still too small for an adult lap and shoulder belt. When these young children wear adult seat belts they can suffer serious injuries to the head, neck, spinal cord and abdomen. All it takes is a BOOST to put them in the proper position for the adult lap/shoulder belt to protect them!

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**Booster Seat 5-Step Test**

1. Does the child sit all the way back against the auto seat?

2. Do the child’s knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?

3. Does the belt cross the shoulder between the neck and arm?

4. Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?

5. Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

If you answered NO to any of these questions, your child needs a booster seat to ride safely in the car.

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Not all vehicle and family situations will have a good car seat answer. You may need to work with a Child Passenger Safety Technician to find the best answer for your situation.

For more information:

[www.tntrafficsafety.org](http://www.tntrafficsafety.org)

1.800.99BELTS

ttsrs@utk.edu

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The following are suggestions for classroom/school activities that will enhance education about the importance of using safety belts whenever anyone rides in a vehicle.

1. Invite a local policeman, sheriff’s deputy, or TN Highway Patrol to come talk to your class about safety belts and highway safety.

2. Ask your school librarian to do a safety belt bulletin board, read a book about traffic safety during story time, or produce a safety belt bookmark to give students.

3. Take a song familiar to students (“Old McDonald”, “Frere Jacque” & “Jingle Bells”) and ask them to compose new words with a “buckle up” message. You could record the children singing or, better yet, ask a local radio station to record the children singing the song and ask them to play it on the radio.

4. Have students make newsprint, fabric, or ribbon seat belts to “practice buckling up” at their desk chairs.

5. Try to obtain safety belts from a local auto dealer or junk yard in order to demonstrate the proper way to buckle and unbuckle a seat belt. You also will be able to show how to adjust a lap and lap/shoulder belt.

6. Do the egg car experiment and use the reproducible coloring/story page: “The Adventures of Humpty Dumpty – The Egg” (see instructions).

7. Have students make dashboard stickers for the family car to remind the driver and other passengers to buckle up (see instructions).

8. Have students develop a list of automobile safety features including safety belts (windshield wipers, brake lights, horn, etc.) and ask them to list the function of each one. Or, you could also ask them to cut out pictures from magazines that show such safety features and afterwards they could make a safety collage.

9. Develop simple crossword puzzles or “find a word” puzzles using traffic safety terms.

10. Have students “act out” situation dramas about riding with or without safety belts buckled. They can use chairs with real or handmade safety belts attached to represent car seats.

11. Supply materials for students to make original safety belt posters or compose safety belt slogans from the information they have learned. The posters or slogans could be displayed in the classroom, hallway, cafeteria, school office, etc.

12. Set a good example for your students…always ride buckled up!

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THE DEADLY EQUATION:

30 LBS. \times 40 \text{ M.P.H.} = 1200 \text{ LBS. CRASH WEIGHT}

DID YOU KNOW THAT IN A CRASH OR SUDDEN STOP, YOUR BODY WEIGHT IS MULTIPLIED BY THE SPEEDS OF THE CAR?

SO, A 30 LB. CHILD IN AN IMPACT AT 40 M.P.H. WILL STRIKE INTERIOR CAR SURFACES, OR OBJECTS OUTSIDE THE VEHICLE WITH THE FORCE OF A 1200 LB. OBJECT.
BUCKLE-UP PLEDGE

I pledge to wear my safety belt every time I ride in a motor vehicle, regardless of where I’m sitting or how long the trip is. I want to start a habit for life.

Signature
Date

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BUCKLE UP HELPER AWARD

I am very special.
I always buckle up.
I am a Buckle Up Helper.
I help everyone ride safely in the car.

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Buckle Up for Love!

BUCKLE UP PLEDGE

I pledge to buckle up; to protect children by placing them in safety belts or child restraints; and to encourage my fellow passengers to get into the buckle up habit.

Signature ____________________________ Date ______________

☐ Will Start.  ☐ Will Continue.

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BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELT

WHEN YOU RIDE IN THE CAR WHAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU DO

BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELT THAT'S WHAT YOU DO

IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG JUST A SECOND OR TWO

BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELT THAT'S WHAT YOU DO

TELL YOUR MOMMY AND YOUR DADDY TO BUCKLE THEIRS TOO

NO EXCUSE WILL DO

WHEN YOU RIDE IN THE CAR WHAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU DO

BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELT THAT'S WHAT YOU DO

THEY SAVE MANY LIVES AND THEY MAY SAVE YOU

BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELT THAT'S WHAT YOU DO

TELL YOUR MOMMY AND YOUR DADDY TO BUCKLE THEIRS TOO

NO EXCUSE WILL DO

WHEN YOU RIDE IN THE CAR WHAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU DO

BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELT THAT'S WHAT YOU DO

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1. "Safe & Snug" (to the tune of "Where Is Thumbkin?")
   Substitute your children's names for those listed here:
   Where is Tommy?
   Where is Tommy?
   Here I am. Here I am.
   Riding in the back seat.
   Seat belt snapped around me.
   Safe and snug.
   Safe and snug.

2. "Always Buckle Up" (to the tune of "Farmer In The Dell")
   You pull your seat belt snug.
   Until you feel it tug.
   Fasten up your safety belt.
   And always buckle up!

3. "Going to School" (to the tune of "Old MacDonald")
   Sam went riding in the car
   Going to his school.
   Pulled his seat belt nice and snug
   'Cause he knows the rule:
   (Spoken) Wear your seat belt every trip
   Wear it snug across your hips.
   Sam went riding in the car
   Going to his school.
   Sally's riding in her van
   Going to her school.
   Pulls her seat belt nice and snug
   'Cause she knows the rule:
   (Spoken) Pull the belt across your lap.
   Listen 'til you hear the snap.
   Sally's riding in her van
   Going to her school.
   Johnny's riding in his truck
   Going to his school.
   Pulls his seat belt nice and snug
   'Cause he knows the rule:
   (Spoken) Pull your seat belt nice and snug.
   Pull until you feel it tug.
   Johnny's riding in his truck
   Going to his school.

4. "That's the Clue" (to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star")
   When I get into the car
   I will not go near or far
   'Til I hear a nice loud snap.
   The seat belt's snug across my lap.
   Fasten seat belts, that's the clue
   For a safer me and you.
Click together to close

Press to open

What color are the safety belts in your car?

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SEAT BELT MATCH

Make copies of seat belt diagram and cut out. Write words, numbers or pictures on one side of the buckle and then write its match on the other side. Give students one side of the buckle and then let them find the other side, so they can fasten their buckle.

MATH
Dots to numbers
Continuing patterns
Addition and subtraction problems to answer

SCIENCE
Animal to animal home
Seasonal weather to season
Animal baby to animal parent

ENGLISH
Two words to contraction
One word to its opposite
Two words to compound word
Uppercase letter to lower case letter
Can you make a CAR with these shapes?

Can you make a SEATBELT with these shapes?
HOW SHOULD I RIDE?
WRITE THE FIRST LETTER OF EACH PICTURE ON THE LINE UNDER EACH BOX.

SOME ARE DONE FOR YOU.

WHEN YOU HAVE PUT THE RIGHT LETTERS UNDER THE PICTURES, YOU WILL KNOW HOW YOU SHOULD RIDE!

B  

P
Egg Car Experiment

STEP 1: Pound 4 nails into the board in a row like picture A. This makes the dashboard of the car. Make sure that at least ½ inch of each nail is sticking out of the board. The circle shows where the paper cup will go. Pound 2 nails into the board behind where the cup will go. Make sure the cup will fit against the 2 nails.

STEP 2: Slide the 4 spools over the 4 nails. Look at picture B. Pound the 4 nails with the spools on them into the edges of the board. Do not pound the nails too tightly against the spools or the car will not roll.

STEP 3: The piece of paper will make the dashboard and hood of the car. You may need to cut the paper to make it fit. Tape the paper over the nails so your car looks like picture C.

STEP 4: The paper cup will make the seat. Draw a seat on the paper cup so it looks like picture D. Cut it out with scissors. Put the seat against the 2 nails in your board. Put the 2 thumbtacks through the bottom of the seat into the board. Put a rubber band around the seat and the 2 nails. See picture E.

STEP 5: Test to see if your car rolls smoothly and straight. You can help the car roll smoothly by bending the nails with the spools on them a little bit.

STEP 6: Put some tissue paper or a paper towel inside the seat at the bottom. This makes a seat for your passenger.

STEP 7: Now you are ready to make safety belts for your egg. Use wide rubber bands to make the safety belts. Put the rubber bands around the egg and the seat so they look like picture F. The rubber bands should fit tightly around the egg. They should not be too high or too low.

STEP 8: Build an egg car ramp. Be sure to put down newspaper so clean up will be easy. Your ramp should look like picture G.

NOW YOU ARE READY TO FIND OUT IF SAFETY BELTS:

★ Keep passengers from hitting the inside of the car
★ Keep passengers from being thrown out of the car in an accident.

NOW ANSWER THE QUESTION. SHOULD I WEAR MY SAFETY BELT?

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You Will Need:
- a piece of wood for the car board — ½" thick, 3 to 6" wide and 6 to 12" long
- 10 nails or wood screws 2 .0 3 inches long
- 1 styrofoam coffee cup
- 4 empty thread spools (wood or plastic)
- a bar of soap
- a piece of heavy paper
- a tissue or a paper towel
- some wide rubber bands or narrow masking tape
- 2 thumbtacks
- a pencil
- wax paper
- a board for a ramp — ¼ to 1" thick, twice as wide as the car board and 30 to 60" long
- two or three raw eggs
- hammer, scissors, screwdriver
THE ADVENTURES OF HUMPTY DUMPTY—
THE EGG!

1. HUMPTY DUMPTY DROVE IN HIS CAR.

2. HUMPTY DUMPTY DIDN'T GO FAR!

3. LET'S SEE HUMPTY DRIVE AGAIN.

4. ONLY THIS TIME...
   HUMPTY'S BUCKLED IN!

SAFETY BELTS SAVE LIVES!

Remember...
Safety belts help protect you!
We Love You – Buckle Up!

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CRACK THE CODE
Find the special message by looking up the letter that matches the number answer for each problem in the heart. What does the message say?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>H</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>J</th>
<th>K</th>
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<tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12-4</th>
<th>5-4</th>
<th>15+7</th>
<th>15-10</th>
<th>10-9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-7</td>
<td>11-6</td>
<td>8-7</td>
<td>7+11</td>
<td>14+6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-7</td>
<td>3+9</td>
<td>5+4</td>
<td>12-9</td>
<td>5+6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2+4</td>
<td>9+9</td>
<td>6+9</td>
<td>18-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18+2</td>
<td>16-8</td>
<td>9-4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-1</td>
<td>13+7</td>
<td>9-8</td>
<td>9+9</td>
<td>17+3</td>
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SAFETY WORD SEARCH
Find the words in the bank.

Valentine Bank

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CONNECT THE DOTS!

Buckle right!
Low and tight!
WE BUCKLE UP!

MAKING A DASHBOARD STICKER

OBJECTIVE:

The children will make (decorate) dashboard stickers for their cars.
(Sticker reinforces the habit of "buckling up").

PREPARATION:

One 3x5 self-adhesive label per child
Teacher will print "WE BUCKLE UP" on each label

PROCEDURE:

The children will decorate the label. Instruct the children to take
the label home and ask their parents to place it on dashboard of the
car the family rides in most of the time. (If parents object to placement
in the car, it may be displayed on the refrigerator door, child's lunch box,
etc.) Tell the children the sticker reminds them to buckle up.

WE BUCKLE UP!
MAKING THE BUCKLE UP FLIP FAN

Side I

Please Buckle Up!

Side II

Thanks for Buckling Up!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Cardboard
- Popsicle stick or Tongue Depressor
- Magic Marker or Crayons

Side I to be held up by child when they see someone who is unbuckled stopped at a stop sign or stop light. When the person buckles up, the fan is flipped to Side II to read "Thanks For Buckling Up!"