

Lesson Three: Motor Vehicle Safety

Objective: At the end of the lesson, the children should be able to explain the importance of seat belts.



Materials: Pictures of child safety seats, construction paper, safety scissors, magazines for picture cutouts

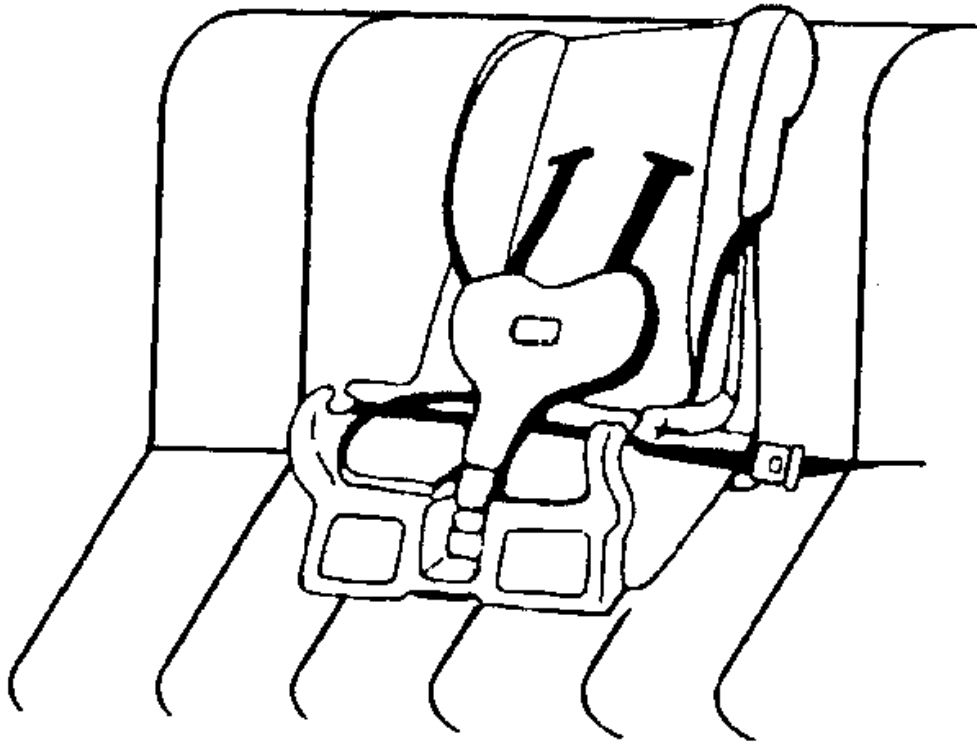
Directions:

1. We need to encourage the use of safety seats in a POSITIVE manner, without frightening the children. Possible approaches are: "Seat belts and safety seats are to keep little people snug, secure, and safe from bumps and bruises." "The safety seat helps, protects, and takes care of you; it keeps you from bumping your head." "This is your special way to ride in the car." Have children repeat "This is our special way to ride in the car."
2. Review the following safety rules:
 - On all trips, short and long, ALWAYS buckle your seat belt or ride in a car seat when riding in a vehicle.
 - Seat belts keep people from being thrown against other passengers and hard surfaces in a crash or sudden stop.
 - Seat belts should be worn snug across the lap and across the shoulder; not under the arm or behind the back.
3. Show the children a picture of a safety seat and explain that all of the straps need to be fastened so they are comfortable and safe in the seat. Tell them if there isn't a safety seat, to use the safety belt over their hips, not their stomachs. Also emphasize that the back seat is the safest place to be.
4. If available, use a safety seat to demonstrate with the child in the class. Have children practice using it correctly. Invite SAFE KIDS (www.safekids.org) or the local police department to come into the classroom for a demonstration.
5. Have the children look through magazines and cut out pictures of cars, trucks, and vans. Have the children describe things that make them safe. Have them make a collage.

Reminder:

- Include car safety in the first of the year general safety discussions. Remind children before every field trip in a car or van about "vehicle manners" to sit still and always buckle up in their seat.
- For children entering into kindergarten, introduce to Bus Safety if appropriate. (See sheet on School Bus Safety)

PICTURE OF CARSEAT



PICTURE OF A BOOSTER SEAT

