Ideas for Child Care Programs to Promote Car Safety for Children

1. Encourage parents of pre-school age children to:
   a. Learn the safety differences between a safety seat with a harness and a booster and how to select the best seat for each child.
   b. Provide the appropriate type of safety seat for each child on every ride.
   c. Teach children why they need to be buckled up with Bucklebear (Teachers Guide: A Positive Approach to Teaching Child Passenger Safety) take-home projects.
   d. Make sure safety belts and appropriate child restraints are used in buses and vans transporting children with special needs.
   e. Use up-to-date sources for more information on buckling up children correctly. Examples are “The Perfect Gift: Your Child’s Safety” or ‘Keep Your Child Safe,’ available from SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.
   f. Show an educational/motivational video, such as “Don’t Risk Your Child’s Life IX” (Shelness Productions USA), at a parent meeting. Include correct information for buckling up when pregnant.
   g. Insist on the appropriate safety seat for every child during field trips. It’s the law!

2. Within child care setting:
   a. Teach children why they need to be buckled up with Bucklebear.
   b. Include information on properly buckling up for each stage in the following programs:
      1) Program orientation
      2) Parent committees
      3) Policy council
      4) On home visits
      5) At group socializations
      6) Other program events, such as fairs, community festivals
   c. Ask a CPST (found on SafeKids.org) to help conduct a survey of how children are buckled up by observing activity near your child care program at pick-up and drop-off and publicize the results in your program newsletter. (Forms available from SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.)
   d. Celebrate Safety Seat Checkup Week.
   e. Join SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. and help spread the word through business, medical, preschool, law enforcement, and other professional communities.

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