

# 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 “Do You Buckle Up?” \*
  - 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 by 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 VII,” or the “Boosters Are For Big Kids” DVD/VHS 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. 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
  - c. 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.)
  - d. Sponsor a traffic safety poster and essay contest in the school.
  - e. Celebrate Safety Seat Checkup Week.
  - f. Join SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. and help spread the word through business, medical, preschool, law enforcement, and other professional communities.

\*The SBS USA Audiovisual Library has a wide range of videos appropriate for different ages.

For more information:

*SafetyBeltSafe* U.S.A., P.O. Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003      [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org)  
310/222-6860 or 800/745-SAFE      En español: 310/222-6862 or 800/747-SANO