



#10450 DRIVER'S EDUCATION: PART 14--KEEPING YOU AND YOUR PASSENGERS SAFE

DEAF SUCCESS PRODUCTIONS, 2004
GRADE LEVEL: 9 – 12
17 MINUTES

DESCRIPTION

What are the reasons for most crashes? What are the warning signs of driver fatigue? How can it be prevented? Answers these important questions, which may keep both driver and passenger safe. An ASL narrator also includes ten rules for safe driving. Voiced in English.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Working with Others

- Standard: Displays effective interpersonal communication skills.
 - Benchmark: Demonstrates appropriate behaviors for relating well with others (e.g., empathy, caring, respect, helping, friendliness, politeness).
 - Benchmark: Knows strategies to effectively communicate in a variety of settings (e.g., selects appropriate strategy for audience and situation).
 - Benchmark: Uses nonverbal communication such as eye contact, body position, and gestures effectively.

Subject Area: Health

- Standard: Knows essential concepts and practices concerning injury prevention and safety.
 - Benchmark: Knows injury prevention strategies for community health (e.g., neighborhood safety, traffic safety, safe driving).

Subject Area: Self-Regulation

- Standard: Considers risks.
 - Benchmark: Knows potential safety hazards, and knows common strategies to avoid hazard or injury.
 - Benchmark: Knows emergency safety procedures before undertaking hazardous procedures.
- Standard: Demonstrates perseverance.
 - Benchmark: Knows strategies to focus attention (e.g., sitting up straight, maintaining eye contact, breathing deeply).
 - Benchmark: Knows strategies to deal with distractions (e.g., stopping during task to identify current thinking, setting aside important thought until task completed).

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To discuss the importance of keeping you and your passengers safe during driving.
2. To demonstrate the main causes of road injuries or deaths.
3. To present ten rules to safe driving.
4. To become a responsible driver by driving safely and showing respect for other drivers.
5. To identify ways to prevent fatigue during driving.

BEFORE SHOWING

Approximately 20 percent of licensed drivers in the U.S. who are 17 and 24 represent 65 percent of those injured or killed in roadway accidents. In addition, a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration study determined that children 15 and under have twice the risk of becoming a fatality if the driver is 20 or younger than if the driver is in the age range of 35 to 45.

Young drivers are more likely to be involved in a crash, they are more likely to speed, more willing to take risks, more likely to drive at night, and they underestimate the dangers associated with a hazardous situation. The risk for motor vehicle crashes is higher among 16- to 19-year-olds than among any other age group. Some states have started graduated driver licensing, forcing restrictions on beginning drivers, which can gradually be eased with more experience and driving skills.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. What are the main causes of road injuries or deaths? Background: Most road crashes that result in injury involve at least one of the following factors:
 - a. Consuming alcohol and/or drugs.
 - b. Driving at an excessive speed.
 - c. Becoming fatigued.
 - d. Failing to wear a seat belt.
 - e. Failing to follow signs or signals.
 - f. Failing to pay attention.
 - g. Failing to signal properly.
 - h. Following too closely.
2. Overview the ten rules to safe driving:
 - a. Drive at a safe speed.
 - b. Don't drink, "drug," and drive.
 - c. Follow the road rules.
 - d. Concentrate at all times and be prepared.
 - e. Be patient and when in doubt, don't proceed.
 - f. Plan your moves well in advance.
 - g. Give correct signals.
 - h. Be alert at intersections.
 - i. Know your vehicles.
 - j. Be polite and considerate toward other road users.
3. Discuss driver fatigue and its warning signs. STOP immediately and take a break if:
 - a. You keep yawning.
 - b. Your vision starts to blur or dim.
 - c. You start "seeing things."
 - d. You find you're daydreaming and not concentrating on your driving.
 - e. You become impatient.

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

- f. You feel hungry or thirsty.
- g. Your hands feel sweaty.
- h. Your reactions seem slow.
- i. You feel stiff and cramped.
- j. Your driving speed increases or decreases unintentionally.
- k. You wander over the centerline or onto the road edge.

Applications and Activities

1. Write a report on possible measures to decrease the following risks:
 - a. Friends in the car lead to excitement, distractions, and peer pressure.
 - b. Fatal crashes with teen drivers are more likely to involve passengers.
 - c. Teens are less likely to wear seat belts when driving with other teens.
2. Discuss or debate the importance of these suggestions for safe teen driving:
 - a. *The Character/Responsibility of the Driver.* Respect for the law, not speeding, not using the car to goof off in and never drinking and driving all fall under the category of the character of the driver. How can families or schools help to develop this character?
 - b. *Good Driving Skills/Habits.* New drivers can begin to acquire these essential skills in a driver's education course, from their parents, from what they read, films, workbooks, or software. How can essential skills be put into practice? How do they become habit?
 - c. *Experience.* This is recognized as one of the most crucial elements by all safety experts in becoming a safe driver. It is also the one most often neglected and found lacking in new drivers. There are no hurry-up shortcuts in attaining this vital key. How does a new driver best gain experience? (Under what conditions, and with what supervision?)

RELATED RESOURCES

Captioned Media Program

- [Driver's Education: Part 9—Collision Prevention #10458](#)
- [Streets of Danger & the Road to Safety #10764](#)
- [Trauma Prevention #8929](#)

To view more titles in the *Driver's Education* series and other related media, please connect to our Web site at <http://www.cfv.org/browsetitles.asp?sn=98>.

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **HELPING YOUR TEEN BECOME A SAFE DRIVER**

<http://www.aacap.org/publications/factsfam/76.htm>

According to the American Automobile Association (AAA), teenage drivers account for only 7 percent of the driving population but are involved in 14 percent of fatal crashes.

- **DRIVER FATIGUE**

<http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/fatigue/>

Driver fatigue can severely impair judgment and can affect anyone. It is particularly dangerous because one of the symptoms is decreased ability to judge our own level of tiredness. Provides a list of symptoms.

- **DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR ILLEGAL DRUGS**

<http://oas.samhsa.gov/DWI.htm>

Results of a national survey conducted in 2002 and 2003 showing the percentage of persons who drink or use drugs and then drive.