



CORBIN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Corbin & Associates, Inc.
Lesson Plan of the Month
October 2000

Topic: Passenger Responsibility

Target Group: Sophomore

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Objectives:

After this block of instruction the student will be able to:

1. Explain how they can prevent death in vehicle accidents
2. Know the importance of wearing a seat belt in a vehicle
3. Identify with some warnings that a driver has been drinking alcohol or using drugs

Introduction:

Hello, my name is Officer Joseph Cortez and I am a School Resource Officer (SRO) in the Camelback School District. Previous to my position as a SRO, I was a Patrol Officer in the Squaw Peak Precinct for the past three years. I am familiar with all aspects of a patrol officer, including one that kills 50,000 individuals in the United States every year, accidents. Not all can be prevented but we can, however, decrease the number of accidents by educating others and ourselves about "Passenger Responsibility." Today, I will inform you on how you can save a life or prevent a serious injury by being a responsible passenger in a vehicle.

Body:

I. Did you know that.....

- A. Each year 50,000 Americans are killed in traffic accidents?
- B. Most serious accidents are due to alcohol, driver fatigue and speed?
- C. In most very serious accidents, occupants suffer 50% brain damage?
- D. That most accidents will occur 5 miles away from your home?

(That you or a loved one may be involved in)

II. Passenger Responsibility

- A. To assist driver to ensure traffic safety
- B. To be alert during extended hours of driving such as trips and vacations
- C. To help the driver with other passengers in the vehicle
- D. Be aware of driving condition

III. Seat Belts

- A. Help driver to ensure that everyone is wearing a seat belt or using a child restraint
- B. Make sure that everyone in the vehicle has the ability to access a seat belt in the vehicle
- C. Ensure that everyone in the vehicle knows how to properly adjust and wear their seat belt
- D. Youngsters too large for car seats and too small for regular seat belts, that are between
40 and 80 pounds should be placed in a booster seat

IV. Impaired Driving

- A. Be able to recognize physical cues that a driver has been drinking alcohol
- B. Recognize mental cues
- C. Knowing you must stand up for yourself and other passengers in the vehicle

V. Common Sense In The Vehicle

- A. Make sure items are secure in the vehicle
- B. Do not be afraid to stand up for what you believe in
- C. As a passenger, do not hold small children
- D. Do not be disruptive to the driver so that his or her driving is affected
- E. Always wear your seat belt. It may decrease your chances of being seriously injured in an accident.
- F. Never place youngsters in the front seat.

Review:

1. We learned most accidents are due to alcohol, driver fatigue and speed.
2. We learned that you can ensure the safety of the driver and other passengers in the vehicle.
3. We learned how to prevent injury by using a seat belt or child restraint.
4. We learned to always use common sense as a passenger in a vehicle.
5. We learned to not be afraid to stand up for yourself while being a passenger in a vehicle.

Practice:

1. What is the number of Americans killed in traffic accidents each year? (50,000)
2. In most serious accidents, what percentage of occupants suffer brain damage? (50%)
3. At what weight should youngsters stop using booster seats? (80 lbs.)
4. T or F - Watery, glossy eyes indicate that a driver is either extremely tired or has been consuming alcohol? (True)
5. How far from your house do you or a loved one get involved in an accident? (5 miles)
6. Is it safe to hold a small child while driving? (No)

Documentation And/or Sources:

Information was compiled from the monthly City of Phoenix Newsletter, the Department of Public Safety, in the state of Arizona, and the Internet (websites from MADD, Drunk Drivers, Seat Belt Safety, and Traffic Safety).

