

A SEAT BELT SAFETY PROGRAM
OF THE
CIRCLE K CLUBS
OF
NEW ENGLAND

PROJECT B.E.L.T.S.:
Because Everyone Loves To be Safe

Sponsored by

New England District of Circle K
Kiwanis Foundation of New England
Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute

CIRCLE K BUCKLE UP PROGRAM OUTLINE

BEFORE YOU START!!!

If you, as Circle K'ers follow this program's basic outline and make any improvisations you deem fit, then your program is sure to be a success!

FIRST: Talk with your club to generate interest about the B.E.L.T.S. program. Make a list with the names and phone numbers of the elementary schools in your area. Make an appointment to meet with the school principal. Let the principal know that you are working with the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute on a seat belt program with FREE material and that you would like to do a presentation.

SECOND: At the meeting be prepared to explain the program and show a sample of your material. Bring the program itinerary along with you to show to the principal, so he/she knows exactly how the program will be managed. Leave the sample program and materials with the principal. Inform the principal that the program will take approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Bring a list of days and times that work best for your club to discuss with the principal. Don't forget to put your name, address and telephone number on this list.

If you find that you are meeting with resistance from the principal, please contact Vicky Guerina at KPTI with the officers name and telephone number. You may contact her at: telephone 617/636-6381; FAX 617/636-8321 or E-mail at vguerina@tuftsmedicalcenter.org.

THIRD: Determine how many students will be participating in the program. After your club has made arrangements with the school make sure to order your B.E.L.T.S. packets from KPTI. Orders should be placed at least 3 weeks prior to the program date so materials can get to your Circle K club in plenty of time. Fill out the attached form and send it to:

Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute

800 Washington Street, #344

Boston, MA 02111

OR

Email Vicky, stating the number of packets that are needed and the address and name of the CK member who is receiving the order.

NOTE: There should be *at least* 5-6 Circle K members, if possible, involved in the presentation in order for it to be successful.

INTRODUCTION

Each year, over 700 children below age 5 are killed in motor vehicle accidents, and thousands more are treated for injuries. In the latest figures available, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that traffic crashes annually cost society an estimated \$200 billion in the form of uninsured medical costs, property damage, increased insurance premiums, worker's compensation and lost productivity. The economic costs associated with a traffic fatality in 1990 were about \$700,000.

Thank you for your ongoing interest in the challenge of trauma prevention and in continued service to the children of your community.

OUTLINE OF THE DAY'S EVENTS

- I. Question and Answer Period
 - II. KWL Chart
 - III. Safety Quiz
 - IV. B.E.L.T.S. Jingle
 - V. Safety Demonstration
 - VI. Distribute Packets
 - VII. Seatbelt Resolution
 - VIII. Congratulations and Conclusion
- Evaluation Form
- Acknowledgements

THE PROGRAM

- I. Talk to principal prior to the program and make sure each party (Circle Kers, principal, and teacher) understand what each is going to talk about. All CK members giving the presentation should read the program ahead of time to prepare themselves. Roles also should be delegated in advance (i.e. members should know who will be running the quiz show, the coloring contest, who will ask which questions, etc.).
- II. Go into the classroom with a positive, optimistic, and enthusiastic attitude; otherwise, you have already decreased your chances for a successful program.
- III. Introduce the Circle K members to the class.
- IV. Now begins the series of questions to get the children as involved as possible in the discussion. This is a good area to improvise depending on the participation level of the kids. The kids might need a little more energizing, so *be creative!*

Circle K members should ask the following questions (and any others that are inferred from the discussion):

- A. Do you know why we are here today? (Get responses from the class.)
 - B. How many of you wear your seat belts? (Responses)
 - C. Do your parents and brothers or sisters wear their seat belts? (Get input from individual students.)
 - D. How about your other family members like your aunts, uncles, grandparents, and cousins (Responses)
 - E. For those of you who don't wear seat belts, what are some of your reasons for not wearing them? (Responses)
 - F. Does anyone know why it is important to wear seat belts? (Responses)
- V. Begin by setting up a KWL (Know/Want to Know/Learned) chart either on a chart or the chalkboard. Ask the students if they know what a KWL chart is. If the students do not know, explain to them that this chart is to find out what they know, want to know and have learned about seat belt safety. Ask the children to list facts that they already

know about seat belt safety. Once you have come up with a good list of things the children know, ask them what they would like to know about seat belt safety. If the students do not have anything that they want to know, suggest some pre-thought questions that can spark interest with the students. After the presentation you will go back and fill in the 'learned' section with the students.

- VI. Tell the students why seatbelt safety is important. Talk to them about what can happen in a crash if they don't wear a seatbelt. Have Circle K members ask the students questions about what they would do in a car in different scenarios. Come up with creative questions that will interest the kids as well as drive home the information that is being presented.

NOTE: This is another area CK members should discuss ahead of time. Members should come up with questions of their own. The best questions are those that use ridiculous scenarios. This way the children will know the correct answers. For example, "My brother took his seat belt off to jump from the back seat to the front seat. But he's 21, so it's okay for him to do that, isn't it?" Make up stories and try to use more case scenarios than yes/no answers. And try to get a discussion going after each scenario/question to discuss why the answer was right or wrong. BE IMAGINATIVE! This part of the program should be filled with spontaneity and creativity on the CK members' part. Do not be afraid to improvise and make it *animated* and *fun* for the children. Cleverness will elicit a greater reaction in them. Here are a few questions to get you started (members may want to turn these questions into fabricated stories of their own):

Ex. 1: Is it okay to take your seat belt off just as the car you are in is pulling into the driveway? (ANSWER: NO)
(Ask if anyone knows why; if not, explain to them and see if you can get a discussion going, leading into the next question.)

Ex. 2: Do you need to buckle up if you are only going for a short ride; for example, if you are visiting your aunt who lives five minutes away or you and your mom are driving to the local market? (ANSWER: YES)
(Ask if anyone knows why; if not, explain to them and see if you can get a discussion going, again leading into the next question.)

Ex. 3: Are more people saved in car accidents when they are NOT wearing their seat belts than when they are wearing them? (ANSWER: When wearing their seat belt)

- VII. Teach the students the how to do the B.E.L.T.S. jingle. Ask them what sound a seatbelt makes when it is fastened. (Click) Then ask them how they can make a similar sound with their hands. (Snapping) Ask the students if they know what syllables are, explain that “Buckle Up” has three syllables in it, and then put it all together “ Click Click, Buckle Up!” *Snap on the ‘click’s and clap out the syllables in buckle up* Try it slow at first, and then have the students see how fast they can do it. Make it fun!
- VIII. Find a clear area in which you can set up four chairs for a seatbelt safety demonstration. Tell the children that you are going to perform a skit and that it is there job to help you decide whether everyone is riding safely in the car based on the information that they have now learned. Have Circle K members act as parents and children in the car and perform various scenarios that the students may face when they get into a car. Make sure that some scenarios show the wrong way- ask students to correct what is wrong with the situation, and then demonstrate the correct way. After the students have answered a number of questions have them give you facts that they learned during the presentation to fill in the ‘L’ column of the KWL chart. Remind the students that they need to follow classroom rules and raise their hand to be called on.
- IX. Distribute B.E.L.T.S. packets to all children who participated. Tell the children the packets are for all of them because they all did such a wonderful job throughout the presentation. Work with the students to complete some of the activities in the B.E.L.T.S. workbook
- X. Have the children sign the seat belt resolution.
- XI. Ask the children if they have any final questions they would like to ask.
- XII. Congratulate the children on the great job they did and thank the class and teacher for allowing you to come into their classroom.

EVALUATION FORM

After implementing the program, please fill out this evaluation, so the program's writers may know its strengths, its weaknesses, and ways in which it can be improved.

1. How many children participated in the program? _____
2. What was the exact age group of the children? _____
3. Did you feel the program was well written and easy to follow? _____
If not, what areas of the program were not clear, and what could be changed so these areas are easier to understand? _____

4. What areas of the program worked well when carried out? _____

5. What areas of the program did not work well and why? _____

6. Did you make any changes to the program? _____
What were the changes? _____
Were the changes successful, unsuccessful? Why? _____

7. Do you have any other suggestions on how the program could be improved?

Please send this completed form to:

Jon Freeman, Program Specialist
Kiwaniis Pediatric Trauma Institute
750 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111
FAX: 617/636-8321
Email: jfreeman@tufts-nemc.org

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