

Crash Statistics and Seat Belts

# Analyze crash statistics to reinforce good driving habits

Supplies: Population statistics from a town or city; facts and figures on highway safety; calculator.

Instructions:

Facts and Figures sheet

Responsible Driving

 1/9 = accidents

 1/83 = disability or death

Based on the numbers provided in the book

Death rates:

13 fatalities per 100,000 for males aged 16-19

6 fatalities per 100,000 for females aged 16-19

Calculator Instructions:

Have the students calculate the number of students statistically that will be in a collision or killed

DRIVE RIGHT EXAMPLE:

 13 (males) X n

 100,000 250,000 (City pop)

 n= the number of male students that may not survive the year

RESPONSIBLE DRIVING EXAMPLE

 x = n = 3.3 if you will be in a collision this year

# Demonstrates Effectiveness of Safety Belts and Air Bags

Supplies: Remote-controlled model car; small doll; rubber bands; balloons; sponge; video camera.

Instructions:

**Part 1**

Place the doll in a sitting position on top of the car.

Have a student drive the car into a wall at full speed.

Have another student video tape the “crash” (Note how the doll “crashes”).

**Part 2**

Use the same starting point as in Part 1.

Attach the doll to the top of the car with rubber bands.

Repeat the crash and videotape again.

**Part 3**

Inflate and tie a balloon and attach to the front of the car, in front of the doll (simulated airbag). Repeat the “crash” from Part 2.

**Part 4**

Attach a sponge to the wall at the “crash” site. With the doll “belted” and “airbag” inflated, crash the car into the sponge and videotape.

Play back the videos in slow motion. Freeze frame as desired and lead a discussion on the effectiveness of safety features of a vehicle, potential for injury without these features, and why people don’t always use safety belts or proper steering control.