

Aim: To FOCUS

To reduce car occupant casualties and other road users likely to be hit by a distracted driver by teaching the risks of driver distraction to young car occupants using a light-hearted and fun approach.

Objectives:

Introduce the concept of juggling – literally, then broaden the topic to discuss how mobile phones, other people in the car, speeding and drinking alcohol can affect the driver's ability to drive safely. Also the risks of not wearing a seatbelt. Provide appropriate facts and figures. Make a commitment to travel safely and look out for each other.

Curriculum Links:**PSHE/ Understanding and managing risk.**

'Through active learning opportunities pupils recognise and manage risk, take increasing responsibility for themselves, their choices and behaviours and make positive contributions to their families, schools and Communities'. (DFE 2011)

Resources:

3 Juggling balls.
Stopwatch.
Teachers notes.
'Juggling' scribble icon sheets.

Lesson duration: 50 minutes total

Introduction: (10 mins)

Engage the students by asking who can juggle with 3 balls. Use a stopwatch to time those who can juggle.

Lead on from this activity to introduce the concept of distractions, peer pressure, impairment of alcohol for young drivers and passenger

**Main Focus: (30mins)**

Divide the class into small groups (2-4 students). Each group will be given a scribble sheet with distraction/behaviour and influence icons on it. Students should discuss and decide which three driver and passenger issues mostly effect them, and why. Each group should have time for discussion and to write a short summary of their answers on the scribble sheets.

There are several areas of concern – the use of mobile phones, the presence of other young people in the car, speeding and the intake of alcohol, plus non-wearing of seatbelts.

Teachers/ group leaders can be provided with facts and statistics relating to each issue, e.g. how many collisions are caused by alcohol consumption; the increase in collision risk when there are young passengers in the car; how many people still use a mobile phone whilst driving.

Each discussion group should be given the chance to tell the whole class their experiences/ conclusions.

The teacher should collate and summarise the key concerns raised by the students.

The Road Safety Partnership would be very interested in receiving the results.

Plenary: (10mins)

Finish with some key safety statements and get the students to make their own commitment to improve their safety as passengers or drivers. Summarise by emphasising the importance of driving safely and keeping distractions to a minimum.

Evaluation:

The answers on the scribble sheets should provide the evaluation.

The teacher can give a small prize to the student who managed to juggle for longest, and for the student who, in his/her opinion takes a highly responsible attitude to driving or as a passenger of a young driver.