



Safe Kids Indiana

Summer 2016

PREVENTING INJURIES AT HOME, AT PLAY AND ON THE WAY!

As summer starts, threat of heatstroke is high

As summer temperatures rise, it's important to remember that while these summer days are great for the pool and the beach, they're not so great for the inside of cars, which can raise to deadly temperatures in a very short period of time. On Wednesday, June 15th during the 2016 Indiana Injury Prevention Conference, a press conference was held at the Indianapolis Zoo to bring attention to the dangers of heatstroke. The Indianapolis Fire Department demonstrated a mock rescue to remind caregivers to never leave children alone in cars.

Since 1998, at least 676 children across the United States have died in cars from heatstroke. Sadly, so far this year, 15 children have died from heatstroke in cars.

Many people are shocked to learn how hot the inside of a car can actually get. On an 80-degree day, the temperature inside of a car can rise 20 degrees in as little as 10 minutes and keeps getting hotter with

each passing minute. And cracking the window doesn't help.

Community partners, which included representatives from Safe Kids Indiana, Automotive Safety Program, IEMS, IFD, IMPD, Riley Hospital at IU Health, ICJI, and Dorel Juvenile asked everyone at the event to help protect kids by remembering to **ACT**:

- **A: Avoid** heatstroke-related injury and death by never leaving your child alone in a car, not even for a minute. And make sure to keep your car locked when you're not in it so kids don't get in on their own.
- **C: Create reminders** by putting something in the back of your car next to your child such as a briefcase, a purse or a cell phone that is needed at your final destination. This is especially important if you're not following your normal routine.



- **T: Take action.** If you see a child alone in a car, call 911. Emergency personnel want you to call. They are trained to respond to these situations. One call could save a life.

Thank you to all who participated to make the mock rescue a success and to raise awareness to protect our children. For more information on preventing child heatstroke deaths, please call 317-274-6718 or visit www.safekids.org/heatstroke.

**SAFE
K:DS
INDIANA**

Belt Abouts

A program for 8 to 12 year olds to increase buckling up, riding in the back and using a booster seat

Are you looking for an interactive way to teach children about buckling up? Are you energetic and enthusiastic about educating 8 to 12 year olds?

Then we want you! *Belt Abouts* is a school newsletter which models the well-known Scholastic newsletter. *Belt Abouts* was developed as an intervention to target 8 to 12 year olds, the most at risk for injury and death from motor vehicle crashes. *Belt Abouts* covers three key areas: always buckling-up; riding in the back seat; and using a booster seat if the seat belt doesn't fit the correct way.

Belt Abouts newsletter is designed to educate children about these issues by learning about social media and public service announcements. Children will have the opportunity to create their own PSA through storyboards, which are included in the newsletter.

For more information please contact Marsha French, mwheatcr@iu.edu or 317-274-6718.

This project is made possible by funding from State Farm Insurance.



EXAMPLE OF A STORYBOARD:
Source: samuelhedrick.wordpress.com

Indiana Safe Kids Coalitions

Allen
Bartholomew
Delaware
Elkhart
Greater Lafayette
Harrison
Indianapolis
Johnson
Monroe
Northwest Indiana
Orange
St. Joseph
Vanderburgh/Warrick
Vigo
Wayne

For questions about
Safe Kids Coalitions
please contact:
Marsha French
317-274-6718
mwheatcr@iu.edu

UPCOMING SAFETY OBSERVANCES

JULY

- Heatstroke National Prevention Day, 7/31
- Beach/Open Water Safety
- Camping Safety
- Travel/Vacation Safety

AUGUST

- Back to School-General & Pedestrian Safety
- Youth Sports

SEPTEMBER

- National Child Passenger Safety Week, 9/18-9/24