MOMENTUM
Childhood Injury Prevention Conference
Working in Rural Communities: Strategies That Make A Difference
Rural Child Safety

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Youth Agricultural Safety Specialist
Mission:

To enhance the health and safety of all children exposed to hazards associated with agricultural work and rural environments.

Funded through the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH)
Child Ag Injuries/Fatalities

- Over 1 million youth live on farms
- Additional 307,000 youth work on farms
- Agriculture is our nation’s most dangerous industry
- Each day, 45 children are injured on a farm
- Every 3 days, a child is killed on a farm

Reference:
# Mechanisms of Injury

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Children</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fatalities</strong></td>
<td>Tractors</td>
<td>Machinery (incl. ATVs) Motor Vehicles Drowning</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Injuries</strong></td>
<td>Animals (Falls)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tractors</td>
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<td>Vehicles</td>
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</table>
3 E’s of Injury Prevention

• Education
  – Increase knowledge/awareness
    • Example: driver’s education class, Check Up Event

• Engineering
  – Remove the hazard
    • Example: air bags, ROPS

• Enforcement
  – Regulation
    • Example: seat belt laws, tractor certification
YORK, PA (WHPTV) – A five year old boy died in a tragic accident involving a piece of farm equipment. The five year old was playing in a barn when a tractor wheel, which was not attached to the tractor, fell on him.

When the police arrived, the child was unresponsive. He was taken to the hospital by helicopter, but did not survive his injuries.
What questions and/or comments do you have about this incident?

Why was the child in the worksite?

Who was “watching” the child?

How could this have been prevented?
Goal: separate non-working children from farm worksite

- Best Solution: Off-site child care
- Alternative: Safe play areas
Creating Safe Play Areas

• Comprehensive guidelines
• Mini-edition: Spanish & English
• Design & build a safe play area
• Interactive map available on website
WEYAUWEGA, WI (WSAU) – A 13-year-old is hospitalized and lucky to be alive after a farm accident. Sheriff's investigators say the boy was operating a farm tractor on private property when he rolled the machine over and onto himself.

The teen's leg was pinned underneath the cab of the tractor. He was flown to the hospital in a helicopter.
What questions and/or comments do you have about this incident?

Was the child “ready” to drive a tractor?

Who was supervising?

Did the tractor have a ROPS & seatbelt?

How could this have been prevented?
**Driving a farm tractor**

No implement attached

**Adult responsibilities**

**ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:**

- All safety features are in place (rollover protection structures, seatbelts, shields, proper lighting and marking).
- Basic service check is completed.
- Children do not operate tractors after dark or in bad weather.
- Work area has no hazards.
- Child and adult can communicate by cell phone, walkie-talkies, or other method.
- Long hair is tied up.

**Can your child do this job?**

**ABILITY**

- Can the child reach and operate all controls while wearing a seatbelt, or remain completely seated on a lawn tractor?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- STOP! Children who can’t reach the controls are more likely to be injured.

- Is the child strong enough to fully operate the controls without using both feet or straining?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- STOP! Children who can’t fully operate the controls are more likely to be injured.

- Does the child have good peripheral vision? For example, while looking straight ahead, can the child see your finger entering his

**Main Hazards**

- Does the child have good peripheral vision? For example, while looking straight ahead, can the child see your finger entering his

- Collision with fences and trees can cause injury.
- Does the child use hands and feet at the same time? For example, can the child run and dribble a basketball?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- STOP! Children who lack coordination may not be able to safely drive a tractor.

- Can the child understand and repeat from memory a 10-step process (for small tractors)? A 20-step process (for large tractors)?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- STOP! Children who can’t remember the steps to a job are more likely to be injured.

- Can the child react quickly?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- STOP! Children must be able to recognize hazards, think about how to respond, and stay calm to prevent injury.

- Can the child recognize a hazard and solve the problem without getting upset?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- STOP! Children must be able to recognize hazards, think about how to respond, and stay calm to prevent injury.

- Your child responsible? Do you trust your child to do what’s expected without anyone checking?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- STOP! Unresponsible behavior can lead to injury.

- Why? STOP! Training is needed to prevent injury.

- Has an adult demonstrated driving a farm tractor on site?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- STOP! Children learn best when shown how to do the job on site.

- Has the child shown he or she can do the job safely 4 to 5 times under close supervision?
  - Yes.
  - No.

- CAUTION! An adult must watch constantly until the child shows he or she can do the job.

**Supervision**

- What’s the right amount? Here are suggestions—but remember, it depends on the child.

**Age 14-15:** WATCH constantly at first. When the child shows he or she can do the job, CHECK every few minutes.

**Age 16+:** A child must be 16 or older to drive an articulated tractor or drive on a public road. CHECK every few minutes at first. When the child shows he or she can do the job, LEAVE for 15 to 30 minutes.
NAGCAT Guidelines

Lifting

Adult responsibilities

ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Work area has no hazards
- Object to be lifted weighs less than 10-15% of child's body weight
- Child carries object less than 10-15 lbs

The important steps for safe lifting are:

1. Stand close to object to be lifted
2. Spread feet wide to straddle the object
3. Squat, bending knees and hips
4. Keep head up and back straight
5. Hold in stomach muscles
6. Lift using leg muscles
7. Keep the load close to body with a good grip
8. Turn feet, not body, in the direction you are going
9. Follow the above tips when putting the object down

Young people should be reminded:

- Improper lifting can lead to long-term back pain
- Ask for help when the load is too heavy or you don’t know how to lift
- “Hug the load”
- Use mechanical devices such as carts and levers
- Don’t lift objects above chest height
- Bulky objects are more difficult to balance and put down
- Avoid twisting while lifting
- Take frequent stretch breaks to avoid overuse

Can your child do this job?

Main Hazards

- Slippery surfaces can lead to slips, trips and falls

Feeding hay to horses

Adult responsibilities

ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Work area has no hazards
- Child knows an escape route
- Children do not feed young horses, stallions and mares
- Animals have no diseases
- Children do not ride young horses

Hand-harvesting vegetables

Adult responsibilities

ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Child has safe transport to the field
- Re-entry standards are followed
- Child has no insect allergies
- Child wears long-sleeved shirt, long pants, wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- Break areas are provided away from the work site with bathrooms and water for drinking and washing hands
- Child has at least one ten-minute break every hour
- Child drinks a quart of fluids every hour
LAMOTTE, IA — A 7-year-old boy died after a four-wheeler rolled over while he was doing farm chores Thursday night.

Deputies said the boy was operating the four-wheeler alone while doing farm chores when the vehicle rolled over. The accident was discovered by his mother.

Jackson County Sheriff Deputies said the 7-year-old was pronounced dead at the hospital.
What questions and/or comments do you have about this incident?

- Was the child “ready” to drive an ATV?
- What size was the ATV?
- Who was supervising?
- Did the child have protective gear on?
- How could this have been prevented?
NAGCAT Guideline

Farmwork with an ATV

Adult responsibilities

Adults need to make sure:
- All safety features are in place
- Gear size is appropriate for child
- ATV is in good working order
- Child does not operate ATV after dark or in bad weather
- Child does NOT operate three-wheeled ATV
- Work area has no hazards
- Child knows safe route to work site
- Child can communicate with adults by cellular phone, walkie-talkie or other method
- Child wears DOT approved (or equivalent) helmet with eye protection
- Child wears long-sleeved shirt and long pants

Can your child do this job?

Ability

Can the child reach and operate all controls while comfortably seated?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Children who can’t reach the controls are more likely to be injured.

Is the child strong enough to operate the controls without straining?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Straining to operate the controls could cause injury.

Does the child have good peripheral vision? For example, while looking straight ahead, can the child see your finger entering his or her field of vision at shoulder level?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Children with limited vision may not see people or obstacles in the work area.

Can the child use hands and feet at the same time? For example, can the child run and dribble a basketball?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Children who lack coordination may not be able to safely drive an ATV.

Can the child understand and repeat from memory a 5-step process?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Children who can’t remember the steps to a job are more likely to be injured.

Can the child react quickly?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Children need quick reactions to avoid injury.

Does the child do things that seem dangerous for the thrill of it?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Children who take risks or behave dangerously are more likely to be injured.

Is your child responsible? Do you trust your child to do what’s expected without anyone checking?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Irresponsible behavior can lead to injury.

Does the child usually go with his or her “gut” feeling without thinking too much about what could happen next?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Children who act on impulse are more likely to be injured.

Training

Has an adult demonstrated farmwork with an ATV on site?
- Yes
- No

STOP! Children learn best when shown how to do the job.

Remember

Approved helmet with eye protection

Non-skid shoes
# Resources

## Childhood Agricultural Safety and Health Resources

**National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Focus &amp; Features</th>
<th>Target Audience</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAGCAT Professional Resource Manual</td>
<td>Provides comprehensive information and detailed analyses of agricultural hazards, supervision, and parental responsibilities for 62 different tasks.</td>
<td>Health Care Providers, Safety Specialists, Educators</td>
<td>The manual serves as a reference for Providers interested in adapting safety materials. By using these guidelines, children’s growth and development can be matched with the requirements of different farm chores. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.nagcat.org/nagcat">http://www.nagcat.org/nagcat</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual NAGCAT Guideline Posters</td>
<td>Available for 52 different farm tasks. Ten posters are available in Spanish, and all are available in French.</td>
<td>Parents, Grandparents, Health Care Providers, Safety Specialists, Educators</td>
<td>NAGCAT posters are a resource to assist parents in assigning farm jobs to their children 7 - 16 years of age. They help answer questions regarding the role of their child in developmentally appropriate work. They also assist Providers who advise parents on practices regarding working children. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.nagcat.org/nagcat/?page=nagcat_guidelines_posters">http://www.nagcat.org/nagcat/?page=nagcat_guidelines_posters</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeds of Safety</td>
<td>Single page safety sheet. Topics include: ATV Safety, Equestrian Safety, Rural Water Safety</td>
<td>Parents, Grandparents, Health Care Providers</td>
<td>These safety sheets contain basic facts and prevention strategies to assist states and communities with preventing injury to children and adolescents. They can be distributed at clinics, hospitals, etc. Resources available at: <a href="http://www3.marshfieldclinic.org/nccrahs/?page=nccrahs_resources">http://www3.marshfieldclinic.org/nccrahs/?page=nccrahs_resources</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini-Edition: Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms</td>
<td>Created specifically for parents. This 7 page booklet is available in English and Spanish.</td>
<td>Parents, Grandparents</td>
<td>This Mini-Edition contains information on child development, selecting a site, planning and designing play areas, fencing, and ground cover. It also contains play ideas and links to additional resources. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/safeplay">http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/safeplay</a></td>
</tr>
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*Funding is received from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) SU54 OH009568-01*
The Long and Winding Road
Building an ATV Safety Program

Presented by:
Kristel Wetjen, RN
Pam Hoogerwerf, BS
The Impact of ATV Crashes on Children and Teens

**NATIONALLY**

More children die from ATV crashes each year than from bicycle crashes.

- 10 million ATVs = 174 fatalities
- 60 million children’s bicycles = 155 fatalities

Children and teens account for:
- 1 in 4 fatalities
- 1 in 3 non-fatal injuries
The Impact of ATV Crashes on Children and Teens

**IOWA**

8-10 ATV fatalities in Iowa each year.

29% of non-fatal ATV crash victims are under 16 years of age.

Source: Iowa ATV Injury Surveillance Database
ATVs are Getting Bigger and Faster.

Source: CPSC Fatality Data
Crash Risk Factor #1
Wrong Sized Machine

Children and teens are riding on the wrong-size machines. All pediatric crash victims in our database were on adult-sized vehicles.
The majority of passenger victims are under the age of 16.
Helmet use is very limited among young riders.

Crash Risk Factor #3
Limited Use of Safety Equipment

- Fatal:
  - Adult: 12%
  - Children: 23%

- Non-Fatal:
  - Adult: 22%
  - Children: 24%

Source: Iowa ATV Injury Surveillance Database
Crash Risk Factor #4
Riding on the road

Children and teens are riding on rural and urban roads.

On-road crash victims

- 70% Adults
- 30% Under 16

Children and teens are riding on rural and urban roads.
Not all tires are created equal.

Well inflated automobile tires with good tread are designed to **GRIP** and **RELEASE** the ROAD surface to help maintain control of the vehicle.

Automobile Tires

Under-inflated, knobby ATV tires are designed to handle **UNEVEN**, **ROUGH** off-road surfaces.

ATV Tires

They can **GRAB** the road surface and throw a rider off, or cause the ATV to **ROLL OVER**, particularly while turning.
Fatal roadway crashes have increased at twice the rate of fatal off-road crashes.

CPSC Fatality Database

10-Year Consent Decree

Increase/Year
48 $\pm$ 2.8

Increase/Year
20 $\pm$ 1.8

CPSC Fatality Database
Groups in Opposition to Increasing General ATV Road Use

- The Consumer Product Safety Commission
- ATV manufacturers (Specialty Vehicle Institute of America)
  - SVIA emphasizes that ATVs are not designed, manufactured, or in any way intended for use on public streets, roads or highways and urges that on-highway use of ATVs be prohibited and that law enforcement efforts be strengthened to eliminate this dangerous practice.”
- Safety engineers
- Public health & injury prevention advocates
Our Question:
How do we get from here ...to here?
Find the Right People

- A multidisciplinary group of people who are passionate about decreasing the number of children injured while riding ATVs.
- Safe Kids Johnson County
- University of Iowa Children’s Hospital Staff
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- Iowa Emergency Medical Services for Children
- University of Iowa Injury Prevention Research Center
Find the Time & Data

- November 2008 our group started to meet monthly.
- Pulling together of the data.
- Brainstorming
2009

• Secret Shopping Project
• $1500 Love our Kids Grant

• Anticipatory guidance survey to primary care providers. (MDs, Pas, NPs)
Passion Gets you started…
but funding keeps you moving!

2010: $167,066
2011: $199,346
2012: $190,007
2013: $127,711
Program Development

• School based Curriculum
• Target age range of 12-15
• Interactive and engaging
• Research, research, research!
• How to get the word out
ATV Tilt Table
How’s it going?

• Presented at multiple fairs and conferences.

• Presented at 33 schools and reached approximately 6,341 children!

• Gaining media and professional attention.
Data collection:
Demographics

33 Schools
5056 Students

Gender
- Male: 49%
- Female: 51%

Rurality
- Urban: 33%
- Rural: 28%
- Isolated Rural: 39%

Age in Years
- 12-13: 72%
- 14-15: 20%
- >=16: 8%

72% - 12-15 Years of Age
Have you ever ridden or driven on an ATV?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rurality</th>
<th>% Riding ATVs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isolated Rural</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- NO 16%
- YES 84%
How often do you drive or ride an ATV?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Daily or Weekly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isolated Rural</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Riding Frequency

- **Yearly**: 41%
- **Monthly**: 37%
- **Daily/Weekly**: 37%

Percent Riding ATVs
Have you ridden or driven an ATV with more than one person on the ATV?
Have you ever ridden or driven an ATV on a public road?

- Yes: 81%
- No: 19%
How often do you wear a helmet when riding an ATV?

- 61% Never/Almost never
- 12% Less than 1/2 time
- 9% More than 1/2 time
- 18% Always/Almost always
Multiple Unsafe Behaviors

Behaviors:
- None: 3%
- One: 12%
- Two: 17%
- Three: 68%
Have you ever been in an ATV crash? (rolled over, hit something, fallen off)

Ever Been in a Crash

- No: 43%
- Yes: 57%
## Long-Term Effects of Safety Program: Knowledge

<table>
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<th>Question</th>
<th>Pre-Program</th>
<th>Post-Program</th>
<th>1-Year Follow up</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How many riders on ATV?</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine size for 12-15 yr olds?</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When ATVs on public roads?</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>%58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Day of Program</td>
<td>1-Year Follow Up</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ride with more than one rider</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ride ATV on public roads</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never/almost never wear helmet</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>60%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
How likely are you to use the knowledge you learned in this class?

- Likely: 49%
- Undecided: 21%
- Unlikely: 30%
What’s Next

• Continue educational push
• Parental focus
• Distribution of curriculum and information
Research Connection

- Publications
- Professional Conferences
- Work with manufacturers
- Simulator development
Contact Us

ATV Safety Taskforce

Phone:
319-384-6999

E-mail:
atvsafety@uiowa.edu

Website:
www.uichildrens.org/keepingkidsssafe
References

Publications:

Presentations:
• Safety 2012 World Conference, New Zealand
• ACEP Research Forum
• CPSC ATV Safety Summit
• American Academy of Pediatrics Annual Meeting
• American Public Health Association Annual Meeting
Grant
MO Department of Transportation

$25,000 Educational grant
• Print Materials
• Bikes
• Helmets
• T-shirts
• Safety station awards
• Gift Cards for Poster Contest Winners
• Mileage
• Copies
• Stipend for school liaison
• Support staff
• Bus for safety walk
• Coordinator Salary
Required Form: Parent Surveys

*BICYCLE AND BIKE HELMET*

Return this completed survey to your child’s teacher.
Your child’s name will be entered into a drawing for a bicycle and a helmet.
Poster Contest

- Poster winner selected in every grade level – prize $25 gift card. (for an activity such as mini golf, bowling, House of Bounce, etc.)

- Overall poster winner receives a bicycle and a bicycle helmet.
Seneca was first school:

- Overly active drop off/pick up times
- 17 regular buses, 6 small buses
- Low percent of walkers or bikers to school
- Good community to walk and bike
- Obesity is at a high level (everywhere)
Back in the Day
These neighbor kids walked!

What’s changed? • Busy schools
Working parents
Walking Safety

780 Students
32 PE Classes/45 minutes
½ mile safety walk
7 educational stations

Plan Safety Walk around PE Classroom
time – 20 to 45 minutes
Station 1: Basic Safety

- Look left right left
- Don’t run but walk across the street
- Walk on the left side of the street
- Cross at the corners
Don’t assume the driver always is watching • Wait for driver to wave you on before crossing
Station # 3: Parked Cars

Walk out from the car • Look L-R-L • Make eye contact with the driver
Reason parked car tips were included:

Add to your safety practical everyday tips!
Station 4: Safest route was through the city park
Watch for wild drivers!!

On the route is two parking lots with teen drivers!!
Station 5: Sidewalks

Point out to children to use crosswalks and sidewalks when available.
SES students take part in “Safe Routes to School” program

by Wes James

Children learn to walk on their own through trial and error, but how to walk safely is something that needs to be taught and reinforced regularly.

The first week of October, the students at Seneca Elementary School took part in the “Safe Routes to School Program” sponsored by the Safe Kids Coalition and the Alliance of Southwest Missouri. The special safety education program was funded through a grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDot).

For the entire week the Physical Education (PE) classes learned about safety from instructor Jo Sittin. Some of the instruction took place as students were led on walks where they put into practice the things.

See safe routes on 1B

CROSSING RAILROAD TRACKS can pose a real danger, especially when there is as much rail traffic passing through town as there is in Seneca. Students are taught to stand at least 28 feet away from the tracks when a train is approaching, not to cross the tracks until they see that it is clear in both directions and the only safe place to cross a railroad track is at a pedestrian roadway crossing.

—Seneca News-Dispatch photo James

Railroad safety tips • Stay 28 feet away from tracks • Use only designated areas to cross • Look both ways on track
Station 7: Bus Safety Tips

10 feet rule • Cross street in the front • Make eye contact with driver • Get drivers attention before retrieving an item
Each Student Received a T-shirt “Walk to School With Safe Kids”
Poster Contests
Safety starts with you

Look both ways before crossing!
DONT PLAY GAMES with SAFETY
Pedestrian safety flier send home for parents.

“International Walk to School Day”

During the “International Walk to School Day” event, students were taught pedestrian safety tips. The pictures below highlight key safety tips. Safe Kids Coalition encourages you to reinforce these safety tips as often as you can.

CROSSING THE STREET

1. WALK! Never run across the street when crossing.
2. Cross the street only at corners.
3. Look left, right, then left again before crossing the street.

Walking to school can be good exercise and healthy for you. If you are able to walk to school, WALK SAFELY!

BE SAFE AROUND CARS!

Railroad Tips

1. When available, cross the street where there is a crosswalk and crossing guard.
2. Use sidewalks when available - They are safer than the streets.
3. Wait to cross the track until you can see that the track is clear from both directions.

MAKE EYE CONTACT with the driver before and as you cross the street.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY TIPS:

1. Unless getting on or off the bus, remain 10 ft. way from the bus at all time.
2. Cross in front of the bus, never cross in the rear.
3. When boarding the bus, or crossing in front of the bus, make eye contact with the bus driver. Make sure the driver sees you.
4. If something is dropped under or near the bus, ask the bus driver to pick up the item for you.

Sponsored by Safe Kids Coalition and The Alliance of Southwest Missouri
With funding provided by MoDoT - Contact #: 417-792-3839
Thanks to the Seneca Middle School 8th Grade Student Council for assisting with the pictures.
Students wrote their name on paper to put into drawings • Drew for a prize at every station • Helmet winners rode the bikes
Station 1: Proper Helmet Fitting

- Level on the head
- Chin strap tight
Brain Injury Demonstration
Station 2: Pulling out from a driveway

Check for traffic • Pedal/foot on top • Push out strong
Station 3: Bike Safety

Check for right fit

- Check chain, handlebars, seat, tire pressure
- Discussed wearing light clothing

Reflectors
Station 4: Hand Signals
Station 5: Bike Control
Station 6: Signs

Stop sign • Yield Sign • Discussed Stop light
Only signs in Seneca
Bike safety flier send home for parents.

“Safe Routes to School”

During PE class time elementary students were taught bike safety. Safe Kids Coalition encourages you to reinforce these safety tips as often as you can.

1. Bike helmets protect you during a fall. The helmet should sit level on the head, with the chin strap tight.
2. Always stop and check for traffic in both directions when leaving your driveway, an alley, or a curb.

3. Wear bright clothes and put reflectors on your bike.
4. Stop at all stop signs and obey street lights just as cars do.
5. Conduct a safety check of your bike:
   Does the seat, handlebars, and wheels fit tightly?
   Do you oil your chain regularly? Check your brakes and the pressure often.

Use hand signals

1. Ride on the right hand side of the street.
2. Travel the same direction as cars do.

Biking is good exercise and healthy for you.

BIKE SAFELY!!

Sponsored by Safe Kids Coalition and The Alliance of Southwest Missouri
With funding provided by MoDot • Contact #: 417-782-9899
REMEMBER TO INCLUDE

Prizes
Safe Kids Bike Rodeo... submitted by Becky Beeler

The Alliance of Southwest Missouri’s Safe Kids program recently conducted bike safety education in 32 physical education classes at Seneca Elementary. A Safe Routes to School grant received from the Missouri Department of Transportation allowed the Safe Kids program to set up safety stations to educate students about proper bike helmet fit, bike maintenance, understanding street signs, using hand signals when turning, pulling out of a driveway or parking lot and basic street riding safety tips.

Prize drawings for each class awarded students 200 bike helmets, gift cards to Subway, Safe Kids backpacks and cups. Additionally, all students were entered into a drawing for two new bikes that were given away at the conclusion of the sessions. Julianna Harris and Jessica Means were the lucky winners of the new bikes.

In St. Louis, Safe Kids Coordinator commented, “The students at Seneca Elementary were excited about the bike safety program and were very responsive to what we were teaching them.

I was glad to see that they remembered the tips about pedestrian safety that Safe Kids did with them in October. I want to thank Chris Forman, the physical education teacher at Seneca Elementary, for allowing Safe Kids to take a week PE classes to teach bike safety. Seneca Elementary is fortunate to have such a caring and fun PE teacher.”

Safe Kids Bicycle Winners- Julianna Harris and Jessica shown here selecting their new bicycles at Wal-Mart. Safe Kids habits at the elementary school following the Safe Routes to School program, held during PE classes.

Safe Kids Classroom Wins- Seneca Elementary students received Safe Kids lessons on bike and helmet safety recently at Seneca Elementary School. Above girls show off their helmets. Left (above) courses were laid out for kids to ride and learn about safety.

PE Classes Turned Into Safe Kids Classes - Seneca Elementary students received Safe Kids lessons on bike and helmet safety recently at Seneca Elementary School. Above girls show off their helmets. Left (above) courses were laid out for kids to ride and learn about safety.

courtesy photos

Crossing Railroad Tracks can pose a real danger, especially when there is a high rail traffic passing through town as there is at Seneca. Students are taught to stand at least 25 feet away from the tracks when crossing. The crossing guard always has the right-of-way, and the only safe place to cross a railroad track is at a pedestrian crossing.

See safe routes on 1B
C157 Quince Road
Seneca, Mo
3/19/08

Dear Jo,

Thank you for the T-shirts. I'm happy you spent your time with the whole class and I. I wrecked last week and that helmet saved my life. Well thank you for the safety walk.

Your friend,
Aaron S.
What to do before the grant? Writing the grant!

Jo Sitton, Assistant Director
The Alliance of SW MO

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417-782-9899
Rural Safety

Take Home Messages
ATV Safety

Many governing bodies recommend that no child under 16 years of age be permitted to operate or ride on an ATV. However, our research shows that ATV exposure is high in the 11-15 year old age group in both rural and urban settings.

Therefore the public needs education on how this age group can ride safely.
Bike Safety

It seems difficult in rural areas to increase bike helmet usage.

Continue to educate parents of the importance!

Like so many of the best practice safety messages, the success starts with the parents.
Most “accidents” are both predictable and preventable.

Working together, using all available resources, we can eliminate most “accidents” through prevention.