Snapshot of Safe Native American Passengers
Overview

• What is child passenger safety, and why it is important.
• Crash dynamics, and how a seat belt/car seat protects.
• Common myths about seat belt/car seat use.
• Types of child car seats.
• Correct installation.
Please complete the pre-test on your table.
Child Passenger Safety Is...

• How people can protect their children while riding in a car.
• The responsible thing to do.
• The law!
Why is Child Passenger Safety Important?

- Among AI/AN ages 19 years and younger, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death.
- Among infants less than one year of age, AI/AN have 8 times the rate of motor-vehicle traffic deaths than that of non-Hispanic.
- For children, the use of car seats is the most effective way to protect them from injury in a crash.
Why is Child Passenger Safety Important?

- Installed correctly, child safety seats reduce the risk of death by:
  - 71% for infants,
  - 54% for toddlers,
  - 59% for 4-7 year olds in booster seat.
We’re going to do some polling in real-time using personal technology!

- Take out your cell phone!
- Text CarrieBrown442 (all one word) to phone number 22333.
- Once you have joined the conversation via phone, you will receive a confirmation.
My tribal jurisdiction has a traffic ordinance addressing child passenger safety.

A. True
B. False
C. Unsure
Montana law states: “If a child under 6 years of age and weighing less than 60 pounds is a passenger in a motor vehicle, that motor vehicle must be equipped with one child safety restraint for each child in the vehicle and each child must be properly restrained. The child safety restraint must be appropriate for the height and weight of the child as indicated by manufacturer standards.”

Failure to comply with the child restraint law is punishable by a fine up to $100.
Crash Dynamics

- Mechanical energy is what causes injury.
- Mechanical energy of a moving object depends on the weight and speed of the object.
- Design features (crush zones, air bags) of newer vehicles absorb some energy.
- Restrained object stops with vehicle.
- Unrestrained object continues moving forward until it hits something.
- “3 collisions” concept (vehicle, human, internal).
How Seat Belts and Car Seats Protect against Injury

- Prevent contact with interior surfaces.
- Contact the strongest parts of body.
- Spread forces over a wide area of body.
- Help the body to slow down.
- Protect the brain and spinal cord.
- Keep people in the vehicle.
Common Myths about Seat Belt or Car Seat Use

• It is better to be thrown out (I don’t want to be trapped under water or in fire).
• I would rather hold and protect my baby in a crash.
• Restraints are uncomfortable for me and my child.
• I am a good driver ... I won’t get in a crash.
• I am only going down the street ... I always use a restraint when I go to Phoenix.
Child Safety Seats
Parts and Functions (on the back)

- Labels
- Level indicator
- Harness adjust bar
- Owner’s Manual
Vehicle LATCH System

- Located in rear filler panel of passenger cars.
- Located in cargo floor of station wagons/vans.
Types of Child Restraints

1. Rear-facing only.
2. Convertible.
3. All – in – one.
4. Combination.
5. Booster seat.
Rear-Facing Only Infant Seat

- 5-pt. harness.
- Use from birth until the child reaches max size/weight allowable.
- Child should stay rear facing as long as possible.
Rear-Facing/Forward-Facing Convertible

- Rear-facing as long as possible for safety
- Use in reclined position

Options:

- Tray shield
- 5 point harness
- T-shield
Rear-Facing/Forward-Facing Convertible

- Forward-facing.
- 5-point harness.
- Upright.
- Use appropriate slots.
- Check belt path.
- Use top tether.
Combination
Booster Seats

Two Types:

- Shield Booster (obsolete)
- Backless

Belt-positioning Booster

High back
POLL TIME!

When should a child move out of a booster seat?

A. When the state law allows them to.
B. When they fit the seat belt.
Misuse of Seat Belts

Shoulder belt under arm.

Shoulder belt behind back.

Lap belt loose & over belly; shoulder belt over neck.
Elements of Correct Installation

- **Selection** – right seat?
- **Direction** – front or rear-facing?
- **Location** – where is the child safest?
- **Installation** – is it the right belt path/LATCH?
- **Harnessing** – is the harness positioned properly?
Child Safety Seat and the Cradle Board
POLL TIME!

It is safe to use a cradle board in lieu of a car seat.

A. True
B. False
The Cradleboard

• Important part of culture
  • Safe, happy, coddled, content
  • Can also be achieved with a car seat
• Is fine for general use
• **Never** use in place of a car seat!

*We honor and respect our children by keeping them safe.*
Consider These Issues

- Safety
  - Label
  - Expiration
  - History
  - Recall
  - Registration card
- Compatibility
- Convenience
- Comfort
To Clarify, SNAP:

• Does **NOT**:
  – Certify you as a technician
  – Allow you to teach SNAP

• Does:
  – Build basic skills to help educate parents/caregivers
  – Allow you to volunteer at check-up or car seat events
  – Helps identify possible CPS Technician candidates
  – Understand the basics of car seat install
  – Recognize and correct car seat misuse
To Find or Become a Certified CPS Technician

http://cert.safekids.org

OR

877-366-8154
Recommendations

• Get some tribal officers/child care worker/health care workers trained as CPS Technicians.
• Have brochures/information available to provide to public.
• Have information available regarding referral programs.
Resources

• National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration
  • www.nhtsa.gov
• Safe Kids
  • www.safekids.org
• National Safety Council
  • www.nsc.org
• American Academy of Pediatrics
  • www.aap.org
• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  • http://www.cdc.gov/Motorvehiclesafety/child_passenger_safety/index.html
Post-test

Please complete the Post-test provided to you by

Carrie and Tabatha.
Let's play a game.....

We will now play a game to review SNAP concepts and have some fun!

• Break up into teams with **NO MORE** than 4 people.
• Come up with a team name.
• Have at least one person on your team open the browser on their smartphone or tablet. The long-in information will be on the screen shortly.
Yakoke!
Pesa Mu!
(Thank you!)

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