

#10433

VEHICLE SAFETY: BE PREPARED

MERIDIAN EDUCATION CORPORATION, 1999
GRADE LEVEL: 9-13+
15 MINUTES



DESCRIPTION

Summarizes key points that make and keep a vehicle safe and reliable. Covers vehicle safety inspections; how to look, listen, and smell for problems; and gives common-sense passenger safety rules. Also describes the contents of a roadside emergency kit. Recounts what to do if an accident occurs, and stresses to always be prepared.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Technology

- Standard: Knows the characteristics and uses of computer hardware and operating systems.
 - Benchmark: Knows features and uses of current and emerging technology related to computing (e.g., optical character recognition, sound processing, cable TV, cellular phones, ABS brakes).

Subject Area: Life Work

- Standard: Makes effective use of basic tools.
 - Benchmark: Learns the proper use of new instruments by following instructions in a manual or by taking instructions from an experienced user.

Subject Area: Self-Regulation

- Standard: Considers risks.
 - Benchmark: Knows potential safety hazards, and knows common strategies to avoid hazard or injury.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To demonstrate the basic maintenance maneuvers such as:
 - a. Checking your car's oil.
 - b. Jumpstarting a dead battery.
 - c. Replacing a flat tire.
 - d. Checking your tire pressure.
 - e. Adding gas if you run out.
2. To understand the importance of keeping a roadside emergency kit in your trunk.

BEFORE SHOWING

It's important to have a basic knowledge of vehicle maintenance, as malfunctions can be dangerous. Explain basic maintenance maneuvers.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Discuss why it is important to monitor the operation of your vehicle.
2. List the basic maintenance maneuvers:
 - a. Checking your car's oil.
 - b. Jumpstarting a dead battery.
 - c. Replacing a flat tire.
 - d. Checking your tire pressure.
 - e. Adding gas if you run out.
3. Drivers are encouraged to listen for any odd noises while driving; how can you handle this if you are deaf?
 - a. Get your hearing friends to listen to noises.
 - b. Take your car to a mechanic for professional problem diagnosis.
4. Be alert for:

<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Brakes that squeak or require you to push very hard on the pedal.b. Tires with low tread.c. Steering difficulties (the wheel is "loose" or very difficult to turn).d. Engine oil warning light.e. Oil, gasoline, and exhaust fumes.f. Car body that is rusting or deteriorating.g. Wiper blades that make noise or that do not adequately clean the windshield.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">h. Rear view mirrors that do not function or have broken glass.i. Seatbelts that are broken.j. Headrests that are broken or missing.k. Brake and steering fluid warning lights.l. Coolant leaks (puddles in your driveway).m. Brake lights, high and low headlight beams, and emergency flashing lights not functioning.
--	---
5. Identify the importance of keeping a roadside emergency kit in your trunk. List these contents:

<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Flashlight.b. Flares or reflectors.c. Can of tire inflator.d. Shovel.e. Extra clothing.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">f. Gloves.g. Sandbags.h. Lock thawing liquid.i. Jumper cables.j. Small fire extinguisher.
--	---

Applications and Activities

1. Video on how to do "Simple Basic Maintenance Maneuvers." (See AFTER SHOWING, Discussion Items and Questions 2.)
2. Survey adults regarding their experiences with vehicle malfunctions. How did they handle the problems?
3. Prepare a booklet with a list of emergency procedures for placing in your car:

Emergency Procedures for Accidents

- If you are in an accident, first make sure no one is injured. If you can, pull off the road, out of the way of the traffic. Then, turn on your warning flashing lights.
- If you are in a bad accident or if someone is injured, call the police or 911 and request an ambulance. A cell phone or pager can be a lifesaver.
- If the fault of the accident is in question, get the names of witnesses so you can give them to your insurance company.
- Always have your driver's license, registration, and proof of insurance card with you.
- Fill out an accident report if required.

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

- Remember to remain a happy motorist; you and your vehicle must be prepared to handle any driving situation or emergency.

RELATED RESOURCES

Captioned Media Program

- [*Citizens' Guides to Safe Driving #7914*](#)
- [*Driver's Education: Part 3—Introduction to Control Devices #10452*](#)
- [*Driver's Education: Part 12—Basic Car Repair #10448*](#)
- [*Driver's Education: Part 13—Vehicle Emergencies #10449*](#)
- [*The Ultimate Driving Challenge #8214*](#)

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• MAINTENANCE BASICS

<http://www.csaa.com/global/articleindexsubcat/0,1395,1004010300,00.html>

Covers everything from tune-ups to tire treads.

• MAINTENANCE TIPS

http://www.gm.com/automotive/parts_for_consumers/service_support/maintenance.htm

Describes key maintenance activities.

• AUTO MAINTENANCE

<http://auto.indiamart.com/auto-maintenance/>

Provides an overview of key maintenance areas. Stresses the importance of keeping a log book in which you keep all the details regarding repair.

• VEHICLE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

<http://users.snowcrest.net/wb6fzh/tcevepak.html>

Provides a suggested minimum list of emergency supplies for your vehicle.