

MECHANIMALS



Passenger Responsibilities – Seatbelts.



Target audience: Senior Phase (S4-S6)

Lesson aim: To ensure that young people understand the benefits of wearing a seatbelt and the consequences of travelling without one

Learning objectives:

- Students will be able to describe how the seatbelt acts as a safety device
- Students will develop an understanding of the risks of not wearing a seatbelt
- Students will be able evaluate the impact they as a passenger can have on others

Timing	45-50 minute lesson	Key words	Seatbelt
Resources	PowerPoint presentation, work sheet, optional – Ipad	Preparation	Familiarise yourself with the recommended reading

Lesson outline	Description	Resources	Class set up	Timing
Intro/recap	Intro/recap the Mechanimals resource	Tablet	Whole class	5 mins
Key Vocabulary	Defining what seatbelt means?	N/A	Whole class	2/3 mins (Not included in time)
Starter	Belt Up quiz	Jotter/Tablet	In small groups	5 mins
Activity 1	Seatbelts save lives	Jotter/Tablet	Individual	10 mins
Activity 2	No excuse!	Jotter/Tablet	In small groups	10 mins
Plenary	Recap/Social Media		Individual	5 mins

Before you begin

It is important to establish a safe learning environment where students feel comfortable to share and discuss. Be mindful that some young people may have had negative experiences around the topic either themselves or someone close to them. This can be addressed by regular check ins/ options to sit out parts.

Introduction/recap – The Mechanimals

This is lesson five, however useful to recap on the importance of road safety learning. Collisions on our roads remain one of the main causes of accidental deaths among children and young people in Scotland. This resource has been developed to help equip students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to make positive choices on and around our roads.



Play the Mechanimals intro film

Key Vocabulary

Before continuing with the lesson, you can ask the class if anyone knows what the terms mean. Once discussed share the definition with the class. This will ensure the class have a shared understanding as the word features heavily in the lesson.

Key definitions

Seatbelt - The thing that can protect you from a Mechanimal, a tree, a wall...

Starter – Belt Up Quiz

5 mins

Either individually or in small groups answer the following questions.

After each question, pause to have a quick discussion on the rationale behind this.

Questions to prompt students; Are you surprised by the answer? Why did you choose that answer?

- 1. Wearing a seatbelt reduces the risk of driver death in a crash by;**
 - A) 10%**
 - B) 50 % (Answer)**
 - C) 30 %**
 - D) 75%**
- 2. How many of those killed on Scotland's roads are not wearing a seatbelt?**
 - A) 21% (Answer)**
 - B) 31%**
 - C) 41%**
 - D) 51%**
- 3. What is the minimum fine for someone caught not wearing a seatbelt?**
 - A) £50**
 - B) £100 (Answer)**
 - C) £500**
 - D) £1000**

Activity 1 – Seatbelts Save Lives

- What does the evidence say?
- Seatbelts are one of the most important safety measures in the vehicle
- Wearing a seatbelt will reduce both fatal and non-fatal injuries by 60% for front seat passengers and 44% for rear seat passengers
- Show students the video of crash test which compares with and without seatbelts
- Invite students to share their main takeaways from the video.
- Were they surprised about the impact that seatbelts have?
- Did they realise the impact on the people in the front if the rear passenger does not have a seatbelt on?

Important information for teachers to consider:

From age 14, passengers are legally responsible for ensuring they wear a seatbelt.

Where a seatbelt offence applies, any relevant legal penalty would therefore be issued to the passenger (rather than the driver) if the passenger is aged 14 or over.

Activity 2 – No Excuse!

The purpose of this activity is to get students to start thinking common excuses used around seatbelt use and the misconceptions that exist. Encourage discussion after each one.

I'm only going round the corner and I'll drive really slowly.

Most crashes happen within 2.5 miles of home and at speeds of less than 35mph.

Seatbelts are uncomfortable and restraining.

Seatbelts can be uncomfortable to start with but you get used to them. As for restraining, that's what they are supposed to do!

I'm sitting in the back - only front seat passengers need seatbelts.

Unrestrained passengers in back seats are a threat not only to themselves but to those sitting in the front seats. In a crash, they can be thrown into the front seats or hit other passengers.

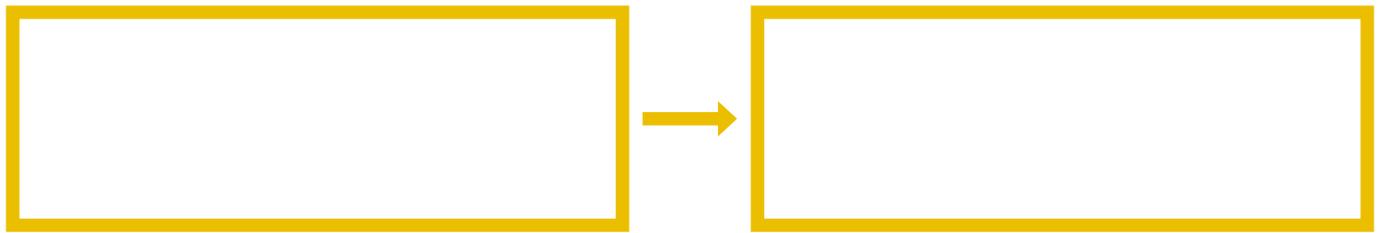
If I'm in a crash and the car is on fire or goes underwater, a seatbelt could trap me.

Crashes involving fire or water are less than 1% of all crashes. In crashes like this, without a belt you could be dead or injured before facing the challenges posed by fire or water. You can unbuckle your seatbelt if you need to.

Belts can hurt you in a crash.

Not more than you will be hurt without one. Seatbelts are meant to restrain you in your seat and prevent you from being hurt inside the car or thrown out. 75% of people who are thrown from a car in a crash are killed. Seatbelts rarely cause serious injuries.

Encourage students to think of their own misconceptions they've heard around seatbelt use?



Conclusion/plenary

5 mins

Before finishing the lesson ask students to compose a short message that they could post on social media during Road Safety Week that would encourage young people driving or being a passenger in a car to wear a seat belt (include facts, fines or motivational sayings).