



University of Michigan
Health System

UMPIRE

“WHAT’S RIGHT FOR ME?”
A BOOSTER SEAT SAFETY PROGRAM

Dear Educator:

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of injury death and the second leading cause of nonfatal injury in the United States. They account for approximately 42,000 deaths, 500,000 hospitalizations, and 4 million emergency department visits each year, or an average of 115 deaths, and over 10,000 nonfatal injuries each day. A person dies every 13 minutes from a motor vehicle crash.

Until the age of 14, the single most dangerous activity a child does is riding in a car. Most parents are aware of the need for infant and toddler seats for children up to 40 pounds and 4 years of age. Child safety experts, based on scientific research, now recommend the use of booster seats for children from 40 to 80 pounds and less than 4 feet 9 inches tall. Public awareness of the need for booster seats as well as their proper usage remains poor. The University of Michigan Program for Injury Research and Education (UMPIRE) has developed the enclosed curriculum in an effort to educate parents and children on which restraint system is most appropriate. The Safety in a Box system will help you teach parents and children the importance of proper restraint usage.

We would be happy to help you incorporate these lessons into your curriculum or to come out and give the presentation to your students and parents. Please do not hesitate to contact UMPIRE with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Stewart C. Wang, MD, PhD
Associate Chairman of Surgery
Director, Program for Injury Research and Education
University of Michigan