



Activity ideas for Child Safety Week

Child Safety Week is a great way to organise fun, engaging activities – and get across serious messages about preventing childhood accidents at the same time. It's also a great opportunity to develop new partnerships for child safety.

Activities can range from safety quizzes and competitions, to safety demonstrations and checks, to safety role plays with children, to chances to sign up for free home fire safety checks and smoke alarms, to safety displays with free information for families to take away.

If you're looking for ideas for activities or events for Child Safety Week 2008, why not look at some of the activities organised for Child Safety Week last year. And if you've got some great ideas to share with others, please email us at csw@capt.org.uk.

Examples of local Child Safety Week activities	
Organiser	Activity
Health Centre	<p>Held events in conjunction with two local children's centres. Fire engines were present at both events and an ambulance as well. The fire brigade arranged to visit homes to install smoke alarms.</p> <p>At both events, stairgates and fireguards were on sale at reduced price. There was a display board on bath safety and we gave out free bath mats. Also did the 'Sweetie Test', which highlights how close to sweets some tablets are.</p>
Primary Care Trust	<p>Held a safety event at the local library, with focus on various areas: fire safety, water safety, safety hunt, road safety and a teddy bears picnic relating to toy safety.</p> <p>Safety equipment and information available for all parents. Advice from accident prevention worker. A raffle ticket, with the chance to win the prize of a first aid box, for completing the safety hunt.</p>
Hospital Burns Unit	<p>Staff from the regional burns unit came together with the fire and rescue service to warn children and other vulnerable groups of everyday fire hazards.</p> <p>Set up a display outside the dining room at the hospital. A fire safety officer and a former fire safety manager offered advice, stickers and fun face masks to passing children and other patients, staff and visitors. Families were offered information on free smoke alarm fitting and home fire safety checks by the fire and rescue service.</p>
District Council	<p>Two stands/displays on child safety, the first at a Children's Centre Information Day, the second at a young mum's group called 'Babes and Bumps'.</p> <p>Safety quizzes etc available for families to complete. Upon completion, they could take part in the Lucky Dip, which contained a range of child safety goodies.</p>

Examples of local Child Safety Week activities	
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Council	Ran multi-agency events at eight of our local fire stations and also had child safety activities running in our six family centres. Our local radio station also ran articles over the week promoting child safety.
Pre-School	<p>Held activities each day to highlight safety issues to the children on a level they could get involved in.</p> <p>For example, set up all our sit and rides, cars etc with our zebra crossing and lollipop, and handed out how to cross the road colouring sheets. At the end of the session, all the children took turns in either crossing where it was safe, being a car or on a sit and ride going up and down our 'road' indoors, or being the lollipop person helping people to cross.</p> <p>Also had our pop-up fire engine and dressing up clothes for all the emergency services, to make up different situations about people who help us.</p>
Pre-School	Made a pedestrian crossing and stop/go signs, which we then used for an indoor road safety course using bikes, scooters and sit-in cars. Took children out to the road and talked about crossing safely, also discussions in groups about being safe in the car.
Nursery School & Children's Centre	<p>A range of different activities within the children's centre over the whole week. The Health Visitor Assistant went into most of the groups in the centre i.e. Baby, Toddlers, Breastfeeding Support etc and talked to parents and their children about safety within the home, road safety, car seat safety etc.</p> <p>Held a demonstration with a cup of juice to show what happens when a hot cup of tea or coffee is accidentally poured over a baby, using a doll sitting in a car seat. This had a very good response from parents, who were very surprised to see how much of the juice covered the doll's body. Also held a large display in our reception area with information and leaflets for parents to take home.</p>
Children's Centre	The fire and rescue service held a 'Stay & Play' session, to speak to children aged up to five and their parents/carers about fire safety. They brought along a fire engine to attract families' interest. They offered families the chance to book a free home fire safety check.
Children's Centre	<p>Distributed leaflets about the law on seatbelts and had a seatbelt awareness day. This led to a road safety day and learning a new game of traffic lights. Role play involved dressing up as people who help us, including the lollipop man/lady. Practised 'Stop, look, listen - is it safe to cross?'. Organised a walk to the local park, crossing two roads safely.</p> <p>Also had children drawing posters about home safety and told stories about not touching/drinking anything in bottles unless Mummy gives it to you.</p>
Children's Centre	Created a mini road safety activity using sit and ride cars, traffic lights and stop and go signs. This proved really popular with young families. Designed and issued driving licences to give to the children on completion of the road circuit.

Examples of local Child Safety Week activities	
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Children's Centre	<p>Different activities during Child Safety Week including:</p> <p>Visit from fire service - Bluewatch Team. Fun session for parents and babies to see the fire engines. Then an informative session in the family room around fire safety in the home.</p> <p>Baby safety at baby clinic: Visit from the Road Safety Team and 'Debra the Zebra' in the family room. With information and advice on road and car safety, during baby clinic.</p> <p>The Big Picnic. Information and advice from Children's Information Services. Session focusing on healthy eating, with the Health Team. Talk about edible and non-edible plants and how to keep your baby safe in the garden.</p>
Children's Centre	<p>Delivered a range of activities to the different family groups using the centre: Breast Feeding Group, Baby Clinics, Asian Women's Group, Arabic Speaking Women's Group, Peep Groups (babies, 1s and 2s), Sure Start Nursery, Monday Family Group.</p> <p>Activities included displays, workshops, freebies (in schools/ partnership working) plus displays, handouts and freebies on reception.</p> <p>Also delivered a basic safeguarding awareness training for the Asian women's group. Gave out activity sheets to children and parents.</p>
Children's Centre	<p>Activities on road safety (children went to the road to learn road safety), sun safety (information plus stall selling sun hats/sun cream) and staying safe in the home (information).</p>
Childminder	<p>Made a 'road' out of wallpaper and covered the length of the room with it. Then the children drew different types of transport to place on the road. Made a crossing and the children drew a lollipop person for the crossing. Then the older children drew people to place in a safe place to cross the road. Practised how to cross the road safely – stop, look, listen.</p>
Brownies	<p>Tied Child Safety Week in with our Road Safety Badge. Asked the community warden to visit and had activities on road safety and stranger danger. Went for a walk around our village and completed a quiz as well as looking at safe crossing places.</p>
Childcare Information Service	<p>Took road safety stickers and books etc to all our Sure Start outreach events during June. Included the activity books and stickers in information we gave out at our Refugee Week Event on 23 June. Distributed 150 leaflets to parents and carers plus 200 activity books for children (0-7 years & 7-10 years).</p>
Road Safety	<p>Worked with trading standards, the police and the fire and rescue service to organise joint events at two fire stations, two leisure centres, a supermarket car park, a primary schools and nursery. Also sent out the Child Safety Week ideas booklet to the 500 schools, nurseries and Sure Starts in the city.</p>

Examples of local Child Safety Week activities	
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Road Safety Education	Visited Sure Start children' centres and nurseries to promote the Children's Traffic Club, in-car safety and road safety in general. Undertook the visits jointly with trading standards, who promoted toy safety. In total saw 260 parents and 650 children.
Road Safety	Toured five main towns in the county, offering parents/carers a free child car seat fitting check. Advertised Child Safety Week by displaying posters in all the health centres, libraries etc, and putting out a press release. The local radio station broadcast our location each morning.
Road Safety Training	Provided all primary schools (124) with a letter to inform them of Child Safety Week plus a miniature egg helmet and leaflet to focus upon cycle helmet wearing.
Safety Project	<p>Sent Child Safety Week booklets and 'Hunt the Hazard' worksheets to every nursery, community centre, library and health centre in the area as well as A & E, children's ward and maternity ward at local hospital. Displays of Child Safety Week organised in all health centres and local hospital.</p> <p>Organised an artwork competition on child safety for all nurseries in the area. Local press did a half page article about Child Safety Week, with a photo of the winner of the artwork competition.</p>
Fire and Rescue Service	Partnership working with local agencies to promote free services to keep children and families safe in a disadvantaged area of the city. Made a child safety pack and handed it out at a different school every day to raise awareness of services available, reaching about 600 parents, prompting referrals for home fire safety checks.
Fire and Rescue Service	Involved in a Junior Life Skills event for about 1,700 year 6 children. In groups of eight, they had ten minute visits to - fire, police, St John's, coast guards, school nurses, bike safety, healthy eating.
Fire and Rescue Service	Visited Sure Start centres to offer home fire safety advice on how to keep children safer in their homes, reaching 80 parents and 25 grandparents. Held home fire safety stands, offering advice regarding car seat laws and home fire safety. Sent a mailshot to all childminders, offering free home fire safety checks.