

# The **Booster** CLUB



A Safety Program for Early Childhood Education



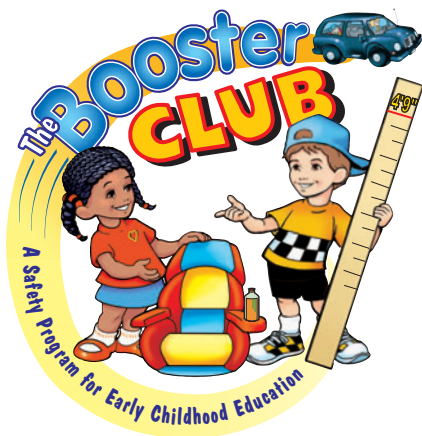
## Activity Guide

Teach children and parents about booster seat safety with ready-to-use materials and resources in this school and community program.

**INSIDE**

**12 Reproducible  
Activity Pages for  
Children and Families**





## Dear Educator,

Welcome to The Booster Club educational program for preschool and kindergarten children. By using these materials to teach young children and their parents about booster seat safety, you are helping to take part in an important national campaign.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in association with the Ad Council is working to spread the word that **an adult seat belt alone is not safe for children who are under 4 feet, 9 inches tall.** These children need a booster seat to lift them up so that the seat belt fits properly; otherwise, in a car crash, the seat belt can cause stomach or neck injuries that can be fatal.

You may be familiar with the public service television and radio ads from the campaign. The scenes and situations are exaggerated, but the message is not: When children outgrow a toddler seat, they need to use a booster seat along with a lap and shoulder belt until they stand 4 feet, 9 inches tall.



**An estimated 80 - 90 percent of children who should use a booster seat do not.**

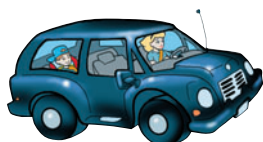
We have a big job ahead of us. Between 80 - 90 percent of children who *should* use a booster seat do not. With your help, we can change that.

As an authority on young children, *you* are the one parents look to for guidance on what is best for their preschooler or kindergartner. The following lessons on booster seat safety — and what's cool about riding in a booster seat — can go a long way toward prompting more families to obtain booster seats and use them faithfully and correctly!

**Thanks for your commitment to the safety of young children.**

Share Your Comments

Visit  
[www.BoosterClubFeedback.com](http://www.BoosterClubFeedback.com)  
to complete an easy online survey.



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# Booster Seat Basics: Common Questions

Here is important information to know about booster seats. To understand why they are essential for children under the height of 4 feet, 9 inches . . . think of Goldilocks. A toddler seat is too small, a seat belt is too big – but a booster seat is just right!

## What is a booster seat?

A booster seat is a type of vehicle restraint that lifts children up, so that the lap and shoulder harness of a seat belt fits them properly across the hips, chest, and shoulder. The booster seat sits independently in the vehicle, and the child sitting in it is held in place by the seat belt. It is easy to remove and transfer from one car to another.

## Who should use a booster seat?

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), a child is ready for a booster seat once he or she is around 40 pounds – at which point he/she has outgrown a toddler seat. From this point on, the child should use a booster seat until he/she is **4 feet, 9 inches tall**.

## Why is a booster seat important?

It's all about safety! When children under 4 feet, 9 inches use a seat belt alone, the lap belt fits too high, running across the stomach — and the shoulder belt falls across the neck. In a crash, these scenarios can cause serious injury — or even death.

## How do you choose a booster seat?

The most important thing to consider is “fit” — whether the booster seat fits in the vehicle and works securely with the lap and shoulder belt, and whether the child's head is at the proper height when sitting in the booster seat. (See box at right.)

## Have booster seats improved in comfort and safety?

Today, booster seats are not only safe and comfortable — they are also cool and hip! Many come with nifty features, such as side pockets for toys and cup holders for drinks. In addition, some newer toddler seats can convert to booster seats once the child reaches 40 pounds — a convenient feature to consider when purchasing a toddler seat!

## When can a child start using just a seat belt?

A child is ready for a seat belt alone when he or she is tall enough to sit with his or her back against the vehicle seat cushion, with knees bent over the seat edge and feet on the floor, without slouching. The required height for this position is about 4 feet, 9 inches.

## Where can you find out more about booster seats?

Visit the NHTSA Web site at **[www.boosterseat.gov](http://www.boosterseat.gov)** or call the NHTSA toll-free hotline at **1-888-327-4236**.

### The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Guidelines for Choosing and Using a Booster Seat

#### Vehicle fit:

The booster seat goes in the back seat, where children age 12 and under should always sit. There are high-back and backless booster seats.

- A high-back booster seat provides head support when vehicle seats have low backs or no head rests. This style can also be used in vehicles with high head rests.
- Backless booster seats should be used only when vehicles have a high head rest.

#### Child fit:

Check where the child's head rests.

- The ear level of the child's head should not be above the top of the vehicle seat back cushion or the back of a high-back booster seat.

#### Seat belt fit:

Always use a booster seat with both the lap and shoulder belt, never with the lap belt only.

- The lap belt should fit low and tight across the child's lap and upper thighs.
- The shoulder belt should fit snug across the chest and shoulder and must never touch the neck.





## Steps for Kids

How to Protect Your Children



### Step 1

**Rear-Facing Infant Seats** in the back seat from birth to at least one year old and at least 20 pounds.



### Step 2

**Forward-Facing Toddler Seats** in the back seat from age one to about age four and 20 to 40 pounds.



### Step 3

**Booster Seats** in the back seat from about age four and 40 pounds to at least age eight, unless 4'9".



### Step 4

**Seat Belts** at age eight or older or taller than 4'9".

All children 12 and under should ride in the back seat. In any stage, proper use of a child safety seat prevents the child from being thrown from the car or truck in a crash.

## Important Statistics and Resources

### Booster Seats for Safety! Here's Why:

- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children of every age from 2 to 14 years old. (*National Center for Health Statistics*)
- An average of 7 children aged 0 –15 years old were killed and 830 were injured each day in crashes in the United States during 2002. (*NHTSA*)
- Use of child restraints in vehicles falls from 91 percent to 69 percent when children reach age 4. (*NHTSA*)
- An estimated 80 - 90% of children who should be using a booster seat are not. (*NHTSA*)
- More than 40 percent of child passengers under age 8 who die or suffer incapacitating injuries in crashes are completely unrestrained. (*NHTSA*)
- More than 20 state laws require booster seat use.

### Booster Seat Shopping Guide

Look for booster seats in toy stores and large retail stores. There are many brands and types to consider. Booster seat prices range from \$20 to \$125, depending on manufacturer and style.

Check out Consumer Reports ([www.consumerreports.org](http://www.consumerreports.org)) or the American Academy of Pediatrics ([www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)) or visit **[www.boosterseat.gov](http://www.boosterseat.gov)** for more information on booster seats.

### It's the Law!

More and more states are passing laws requiring booster seats for children. To find out the regulations in your state, visit the Safe Kids Web site at [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org). Go to "Learn about Child Safety Laws and Regulations" and select your state. Or visit [www.saferoads.org](http://www.saferoads.org) and click on your state for information on state booster seat law.





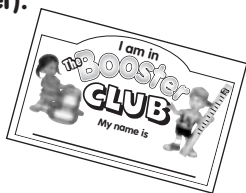
# Setting Up Your "Booster Club" for Kids

Organize your school's own Booster Club — and make every child a charter member! The activity ideas and materials in this guide will help you get your club underway.

Don't forget to tap into your local network of community workers to help give your new club a boost!

## "Booster Club" Badges (on back cover):

- Copy the badge pattern.
- Give one to each class member.
- Help children write their names on the badges.



## Booster Club "Headquarters" Center:

- Set aside a place in the classroom as the club "headquarters." Display the program poster.
- Set up activities that children can do independently, such as a flannel board and the figures from page 23 for storytelling.
- Set out extra copies of the "My Booster Seat and Me" Mini-book (pages 13 – 14) for children to enjoy on their own, and copies of the activity pages for children to do for extra practice.

## "See Me in My Booster Seat" Bulletin Board:

- To kick off the club, put together a bulletin board that features a photo of each club member in a booster seat.

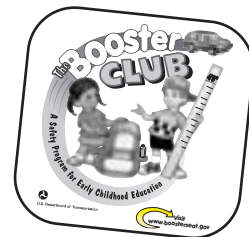
- Arrange to borrow a booster seat and then take an instant photo of each child sitting in it.
- Or, you may prefer to send a note to parents requesting a photo of each child in a booster seat, and then take fill-in photos at school as necessary to ensure every child is pictured on the bulletin board.

## Booster Club Award (page 22):

- Present the award to each child to recognize good work in learning about the importance of using booster seats.
- Consider holding a "Welcome" ceremony and inviting family members and community health and safety professionals to attend!

## "Booster Club" Decal (on back cover):

- To promote the Booster Club, display the decal in the family vehicle.
- Photocopy (if possible, in color) and distribute one decal per child.



## Promoting A Year of Booster Seat Safety Through Special Events

### September:

National Childhood Injury Prevention Week, organized by the As Safe As Possible Campaign.

[www.assafeaspossible.org/ncipw.html](http://www.assafeaspossible.org/ncipw.html)

### October:

Health Education Week, sponsored by the National Center for Health Education.

[www.nche.org](http://www.nche.org)

### November:

Child Safety and Protection Month, sponsored by the National PTA.

[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

### January:

New Year's Resolutions (idea-starter for family involvement).

[www.saferchild.org/resolutions.htm](http://www.saferchild.org/resolutions.htm)

### February:

Child Passenger Safety Week, sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

[www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov)

### March:

Children & Healthcare Week, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Mental Health Services.

[www.mentalhealth.org](http://www.mentalhealth.org)

### April:

National Youth Sports Safety Month, sponsored by the National Youth Sports Safety Foundation. (Use as idea-starter connecting goal of traveling safely to sports practices/events).

[www.nyssf.org/campaign.html](http://www.nyssf.org/campaign.html)

### May:

Buckle Up America Week, sponsored by NHTSA.

[www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov)

### June:

National Safety Month, sponsored by the National Safety Council.

[www.nsc.org/nsm](http://www.nsc.org/nsm)



# Send the Booster Seat Safety Message Home to Families

You know that involving parents in your booster seat safety activities is essential. After all, it is the parent or guardian who will purchase the booster seat — and set family rules so that children use it every time they ride.

Here are tips for using materials from this guide and connecting with your PTA/PTO to educate parents about booster seats.

## Inform Parents of Your Class Activities

- Send home the ready-to-reproduce letter (see Page 7); or use it as the basis for creating your own.
- Get it to parents right away, to inform them of the “Booster Club” program and encourage them to reinforce booster seat lessons at home.

## Educate Families About Booster Seat Basics

- Make sure parents have access to the fundamentals on booster seat use with children. Photocopy the Q&As to send home with the letter. (see Page 3)
- Or, transfer the information onto charts to display when parents/caregivers visit the classroom, such as during a Parent Night, Open House, or special booster seat awareness event (see below).

## Hold a Booster Seat Award Ceremony

- When you recognize children for their good work in learning about booster seats, invite parents, grandparents and other caregivers to attend.
- Involve children in planning a program for the event, such as presenting the “Have You Seen My Booster Seat?” song (see Page 20) and a choral reading of “My Booster Seat and Me” Mini-book (see Pages 13–14).
- Be sure to distribute the Booster Seat awards! (see Page 22)

## Taking the Booster Seat Family Pledge

- Send copies of the pledge home with the letter (see Page 21); or, reserve the pledge for a culminating family activity as you wind up your booster seat safety lessons.
- Suggest that families tack the signed pledge to the refrigerator or the door to the garage — or hang it on the back of the front seats so the child can see it from in his/her booster seat!

## Team Up with the PTA/PTO for a School-wide Awareness Campaign:

Expand your booster seat activities from one classroom to your entire school with help from your parent organization. Here are ideas of initiatives for a parent group to sponsor:

### Booster Seat Grants:

- Some families may lack the funds to purchase a booster seat. Your parent group can plan fundraisers to award “Booster Seat Grants” (money for purchasing a booster seat) to purchase the seats for families in need.
- Local merchants might also be willing to donate booster seats for a raffle or other school-wide fundraiser.

### Child Safety Campaign:

- The National PTA sponsors Child Safety and Protection Month in November (see page 5).
- Your local PTA can join the effort by making booster seat awareness the focus of the month.

### Booster Seat “Stop and Show”:

- Partner with local merchants to give parents hands-on guidance in choosing the right booster seat for their vehicle.
- Plan a weekend or evening event at school, with different models of booster seats on display. Have knowledgeable sales people and local safety and health professionals available to answer parents’ questions.

### Booster Law “Seminar”:

- Enlist a volunteer parent who is a lawyer or law enforcement officer to give a presentation at a parent-group meeting or special event on your state’s current booster seat requirements (if any).
- Make the goal a jargon-free explanation that every parent can understand!





# Give Your Child a Safety Boost with a Booster Seat!

**Dear Parent or Caregiver:**

Our class is taking part in a booster seat safety program in association with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Ad Council. "The Booster Club" includes learning activities that teach important lessons about using booster seats for safety. You may have seen or heard some public service ads about booster seats lately, in magazines or on TV or the radio. Booster seat awareness is a national effort — and our class is proud to be taking part!

To go along with our school activities, we want every family to be aware of the importance of booster seat safety. If your child has a booster seat and uses it daily — congratulations! But if your child does not, you are not alone.

Many parents do not realize that wearing an adult seat belt alone can cause severe stomach, neck, and other injuries to a child who is under 4 feet, 9 inches tall. With more states passing laws requiring booster seats, programs like "The Booster Club" are aimed at informing adults and helping children learn about the advantages of riding in a booster seat.

That's why we're making time at school to teach booster seat safety! I know that your child's safety is very important to you — and I urge you to take a moment to review the Booster Club materials your child brings home — and talk with him or her about what he or she is learning.

If you have questions about booster seats, NHTSA provides information through a free phone hotline (1-888-327-4236) and on its Web site at [www.boosterseat.gov](http://www.boosterseat.gov).

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher



U.S. Department of Transportation



# Collaborating in Your Community on Booster Seat Safety!

Looking for help in spreading the word about booster seat safety? Here are some idea starters:

## **Finding Partners**

- Local safety and health professionals, such as police officers, firefighters, emergency service technicians, doctors and nurses, all have a vested interest in making sure that children travel safely each time they ride in a vehicle.
- Leaders of after-school programs, child-care providers and youth recreational activities can also help spread the word about booster seat requirements to parents and caregivers.
- NHTSA's Web site has an easy-to-use technician locator service: go to **[www.boosterseat.gov](http://www.boosterseat.gov)**, then click on the "Technician Contact Locator."

Try using materials from this guide to engage community professionals in collaborating on booster seat educational activities!

## **Reaching Out to Community Allies**

- Make copies of the community letter (see Page 9) to send to local health and safety professionals and youth program leaders.

- Use it as a first step in drawing on their expertise, then follow up with a phone call, e-mail, or visit to discuss specific initiatives.
- Note that there is a place to fill in your contact information, such as an e-mail address or phone number at school.

## **Sharing Booster Seat Basics**

- Along with the letter, send a copy of the background/Q&As (see Page 3) to ensure everyone is working from the same information about booster seat use and safety.
- Community professionals can also help get this information to parents. For example, ask a local pediatrician to keep a stack of "Booster Seat Basics" in the waiting room.
- Enlist an after-school program coordinator to distribute copies of "Booster Seat Basics" to families.

## **Promoting the Booster Seat Family Pledge**

- Offer a copy of the pledge (see Page 21) to youth program leaders and others who work closely with families.
- It can be a great tool for these individuals to use in getting every family's cooperation in providing a booster seat for their child for program outings.

## **Joint Booster Seat Ventures**

Explore the following initiatives for getting local professionals involved. Also check the ideas for engaging your school's parent group (see Page 6). Many of these efforts will be even more successful when you include local health and safety workers, too!

### **"Community Helper" Co-Teachers:**

- As you plan the booster seat safety lessons in this guide, look for ways to involve police officers, firefighters, EMTs, nurses and other community helpers as co-teachers. They can assist in presenting activities.
- Encourage classroom visitors to read the "My Booster Seat and Me" aloud to the children, stopping on the last page to emphasize that, indeed, they want to see all children riding safely in a booster seat!

### **Booster Seat Vehicle Day:**

- Plan a "Vehicle Day" as a week-end family event that highlights booster seat safety, too. Feature passenger cars as well as special vehicles, such as a police car, fire truck, and ambulance.
- For all vehicles that have a back seat, place booster seats for children to try out.
- Have community professionals available to talk about the vehicle and proper use of booster seats for children under 4 feet, 9 inches tall.

### **Community Health Fair:**

- Involve local health care workers in planning a school or community event that informs families on a variety of health topics.
- Give booster seat safety the spotlight, with information on regulations in your state and basics on using booster seats.







## Spreading the Word in Our Community: Booster Seats for Safety!

Dear Community Colleague:

As a teacher, I am concerned about the well-being of children in our community. My class is currently participating in a program that spotlights a safety problem for those children who are using only an adult seat belt before they are old enough.

Many parents do not know that **children under 4 feet, 9 inches tall need a booster seat** so that the lap and shoulder belts fit properly. Otherwise, they are at risk for fatal neck, abdominal and other injuries in the event of a crash! In fact, nationally, an estimated 80 - 90 percent of children who should be using a booster seat aren't using one!

At school, we are working to educate children and parents about booster seat safety by participating in "The Booster Club." The program features learning activities that highlight the safety and fun of using booster seats, which help kids sit up taller and safer and see more as they ride. The program is sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in association with the Ad Council and is part of a larger public service campaign about booster seats. Chances are you're familiar with radio or TV public service ads from the campaign.

I am asking for your support to help expand our efforts and get the lifesaving message to more families in our community that when children outgrow a toddler seat (when they reach approximately 40 pounds), they need to use a booster seat along with the seat belt system. I have ideas of ways we can collaborate to promote booster seat safety. I welcome your ideas, too. I can be reached at \_\_\_\_\_.

As a "community helper," children (and adults) look up to you and respect what you say. Working together, we can ensure that more of those children travel safely each time they ride in a car!

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher

\_\_\_\_\_  
School



U.S. Department of Transportation



# Give Your Curriculum a Boost!

Use the ready-made activity pages in this guide to include booster seat safety in all areas of your curriculum.

## Connecting to Standards

Activities throughout this guide support curriculum standards for kindergarten in the following areas:

Reading	Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concepts about print</li> <li>• Decoding and word recognition (reading simple one-syllable and high-frequency words)</li> <li>• Vocabulary and concept development (describing common objects and events)</li> <li>• Comprehension (identifying basic facts and ideas in what they have read, heard, or viewed)</li> <li>• Recognition of color words</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matching descriptions of occupations to people and services in the local community</li> </ul>
Math	Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number sense (counting) and number recognition</li> <li>• Measurement (comparing lengths)</li> <li>• Recognition of shapes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigation and experimentation (observing common objects; comparing and sorting common objects)</li> </ul>
	Health
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy lifestyle choices (naming good personal safety habits; identify people who contribute to healthy lifestyles — medical professionals and community helpers)</li> </ul>

### Activity 1

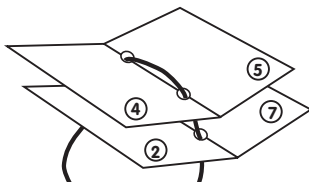


## "My Booster Seat and Me" Mini-Books

Promote early literacy skills while you encourage booster seat use with this rhyming story.

### Materials Needed:

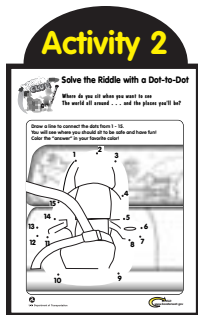
- Mini-book reproducible: Pages 13 – 14
- Hole punch and string/ribbon
- Coloring supplies (optional)



### Step-By-Step

1. Photocopy Pages 13 and 14 back-to-back, one set for each child.
2. Try using colored paper, or have children color the illustrations for their own book.
3. Cut each page *horizontally* into two panels. Put the pages together in sequence (use page numbers for reference). Punch two holes in the center, then tie pages together with string or ribbon. Fold book in half.
4. Read the story aloud as children follow along with their own copies. Point out sight words they may know. Repeat the story a few times, so children can join in as they get familiar with the words and rhyming pattern.
5. Discuss the important messages about booster seats in the story:
  - When children outgrow a toddler seat, they are ready for a booster seat.
  - It's fun to ride in a booster seat because children sit up higher and can see more.
6. Send the books home for children to read and discuss with parents or other adult family members.





## Solve the Riddle with a Dot-to-Dot

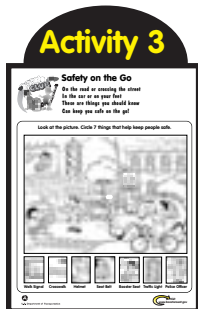
*This engaging activity reinforces counting and number recognition from 1 to 15.*

### Materials Needed:

- Reproducible: Page 15

### Step-By-Step

1. Photocopy the dot-to-dot, one for each child.
2. Read the rhyming riddle to the class, and invite them to solve the dot-to-dot to discover the answer.
3. Check as children draw lines from numerals 1 to 15 to reveal a booster seat. Talk about how a booster seat "keeps you safe when you stop and go, moving fast and moving slow."



## Safety on the Go

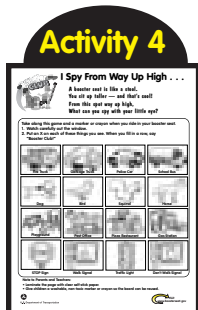
*This is a great activity for a visiting police officer, paramedic, or other community health or safety professional to do with children. It also adds the concept of booster seats to the rules on traffic safety you already teach.*

### Materials Needed:

- Reproducible: Page 16

### Step-By-Step

1. Photocopy the safety page, one for each child.
2. Read the rhyme aloud to the children, then have them find and circle all of the examples of "safety on the go" in the scene.



## I Spy From Way Up High

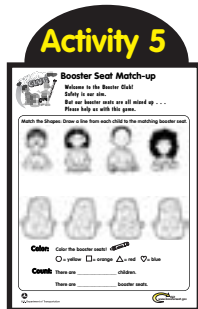
*Use this game to sharpen children's observation skills and highlight the advantages of booster seats — they enable children to sit up higher and see more as they ride.*

### Materials Needed:

- Reproducible: Page 17

### Step-By-Step

1. Photocopy at least one "I Spy" sheet for each child.
2. Send copies home with children to use in their family vehicle(s).
3. You can also involve children in a group "I Spy" game as a van or bus activity during field trips.



## Booster Seat Match-up

*This activity page checks matching and counting skills, recognition of color words and shapes, and understanding of one-to-one correspondence.*

### Materials Needed:

- Reproducible: Page 18

### Step-By-Step

1. Photocopy and distribute one matching sheet per child.
2. Encourage children to help the Booster Club members find their booster seats.
3. Talk about why every child needs a booster seat and the importance of using a booster seat each time they ride in a car.



## A-mazing Booster Seat Journey

*The maze features a simple map of a community and five community helpers for children to identify: police officer, firefighter, doctor, paramedic, and teacher.*

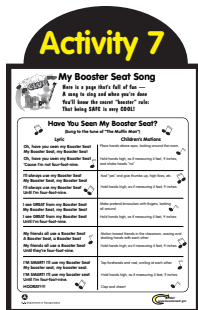
### Materials Needed:

- Reproducible: Page 19

### Step-By-Step

1. Photocopy and distribute one maze per child.
2. This is a terrific activity for a visiting safety or health professional to present.





## "Have You Seen My Booster Seat?" Singalong

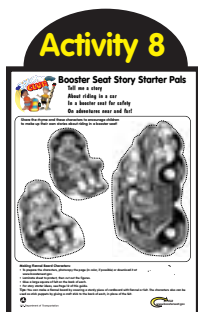
Add booster seat safety to your music and movement activities with a fun booster seat song!

### Materials Needed:

- Reproducible: Page 20 for song lyrics

### Step-By-Step

1. Refer to Page 20 for song lyrics; teach the lyrics and motions to the class.
2. You can also photocopy the lyrics to send home with families.
3. Consider having children sing the song when community workers or families visit the classroom!



## Booster Seat Story-Starter Pals

This activity uses the characters from the program logo for language development by encouraging children to make up exciting adventures for the characters.

### Materials Needed:

- Reproducible: Page 23

### Step-By-Step

1. Photocopy characters on Page 23; follow directions on the page for preparing the figures for use on a flannel board or as stick puppets.
2. Invite children to create stories about the characters.
3. To spark children's imaginations, get them started with a story scenario such as: *Two friends were going for a ride in the country. They could see all kinds of things from their booster seats! As they looked out the window, you wouldn't believe what they saw . . .*

### Extension Activities:

## More Booster Seat Fun and Learning!

Add more booster seat safety lessons through dramatic play and measuring activities.

### "In the Car" Dramatic Play Center:

Set up a play area around the theme of riding in a car!

- Replicate the inside of a car by having chairs in front for the driver and another adult or a child older than age 12.
- In the "back seat," provide an actual booster seat, if possible, or have the children pretend to use a booster seat.
- Add other details, such as a cardboard steering wheel for the driver to hold and old belts to use as seat belts for the adults and the booster seat (utilize belts for a lap and shoulder seat belt).
- Guide the dramatic play as needed, such as encouraging the "caregiver" to explain to the "children" why they must use booster seats for safety.

### Measuring for 4 feet, 9 inches:

Reinforce the height rule for booster seats by having children measure to find out who or what needs a booster seat.

- Cut a length of string equal to 4 feet, 9 inches. Then use the string to check the height of each child, classroom objects such as chairs, tables, and toys — whatever children want to compare.
- Use two pieces of chart paper to record the findings.
- On one sheet, list people and objects that are shorter than the string and would need a booster seat.
- On the other, list those that are the same height or taller and would not need a booster seat.
- Be sure to reinforce that booster seats are not babyish . . . it's okay if you aren't 4 feet, 9 inches yet! You can see very cool things from your booster seat — and most importantly, your booster seat keeps you safe.





Look, a puppy! Look, a park!  
A policeman on the street!  
What are the things that YOU can see  
From in your booster seat?



8

# My Booster Seat and Me



1



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There are five friends  
Waving on the street.



6

So now I have a booster seat.  
I'm a big kid – watch me grow!



3



I used to have a toddler seat  
But I'm older now, you know.



I can see the whole wide world.  
I'm in my booster seat!



Sitting in my booster seat  
Is a real cool way to ride . . .



What fun to sit up high and see  
So many things outside!





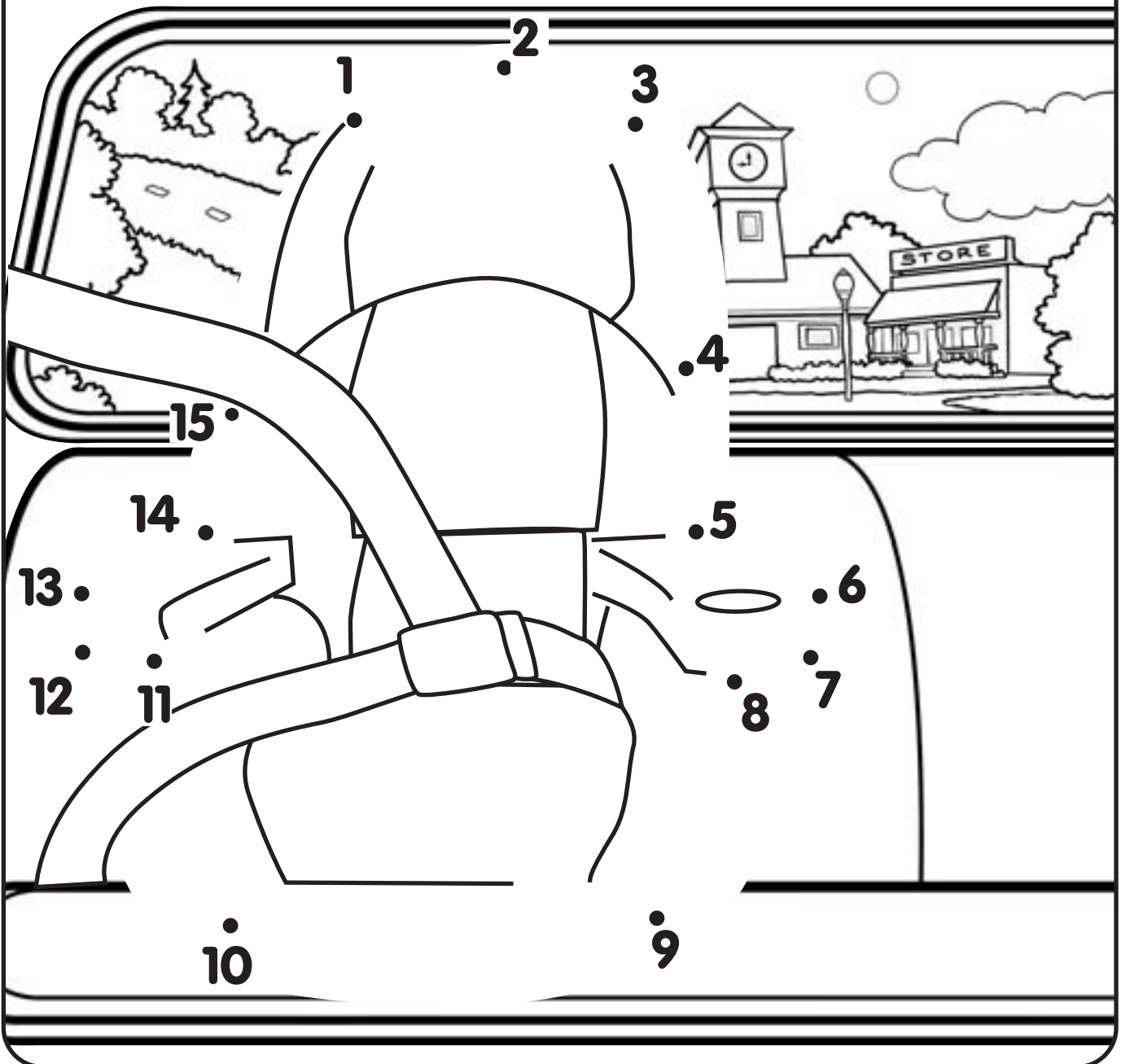
# Solve the Riddle with a Dot-to-Dot

Where do you sit when you want to see  
The world all around . . . and the places you'll be?

Draw a line to connect the dots from 1 - 15.

You will answer where you should sit to be safe and have fun!

Color the "answer" in your favorite color!



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Visit  
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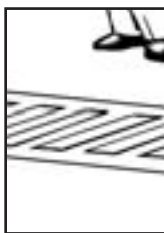
# Safety on the Go

On the road or crossing the street  
In the car or on your feet  
These are things you should know  
Can keep you safe on the go!

Look at the picture. Circle 7 things that help keep people safe.



Walk Signal



Crosswalk



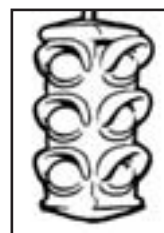
Helmet



Seat Belt



Booster Seat



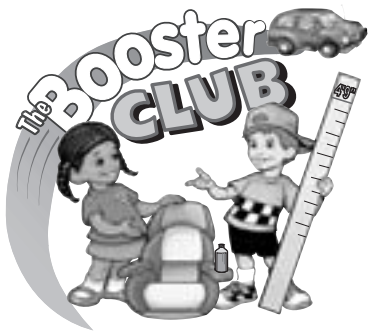
Traffic Light



Police Officer





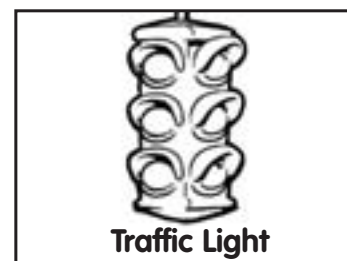
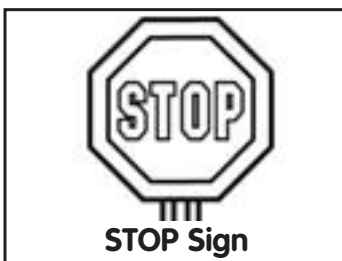
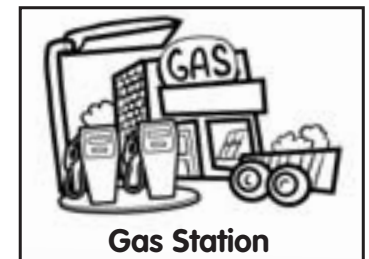
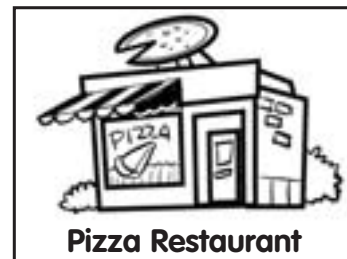
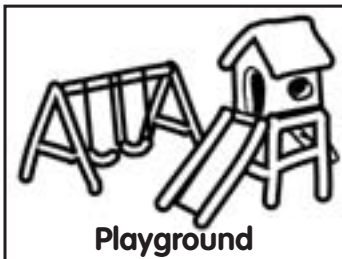
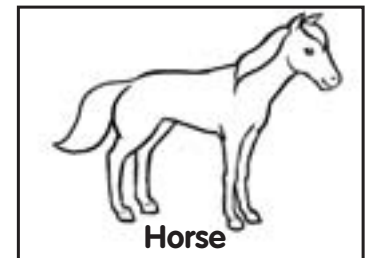
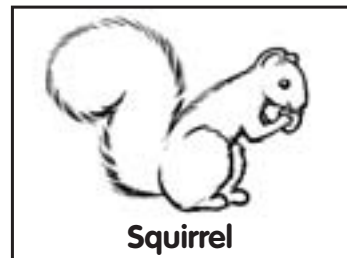
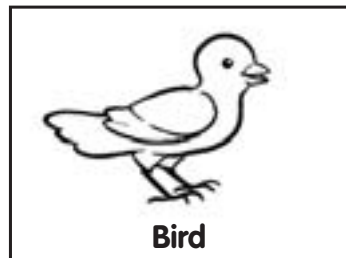
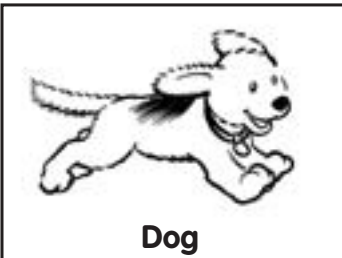
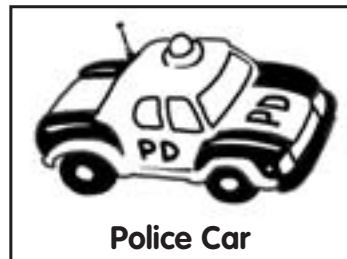


# I Spy From Way Up High . . .

A booster seat is like a stool.  
You sit up taller — and that's cool!  
From this spot way up high,  
What can you spy with your little eye?

Take along this game and a marker or crayon when you ride in your booster seat.

1. Watch carefully out the window.
2. Put an X on each of these things you see. When you fill in a row, say "Booster Club!"



Note to Parents and Teachers:

- Laminate the page with clear self-stick paper.
- Give children a washable, non-toxic marker or crayon so the board can be reused.



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# Booster Seat Match-up

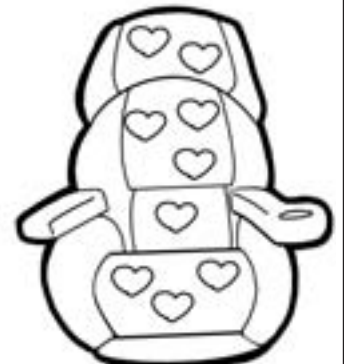
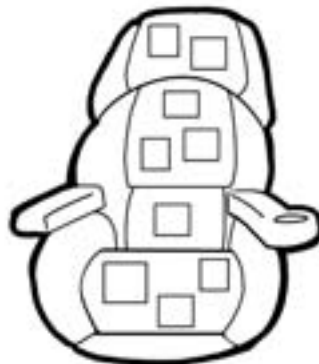
Welcome to the Booster Club!

Safety is our aim.

But our booster seats are all mixed up . . .

Please help us with this game.

Match the Shapes: Draw a line from each child to the matching booster seat.



**Color:** Color the booster seats!



○ = yellow   □ = orange   △ = red   ♥ = blue

**Count:** There are \_\_\_\_\_ children.

There are \_\_\_\_\_ booster seats.



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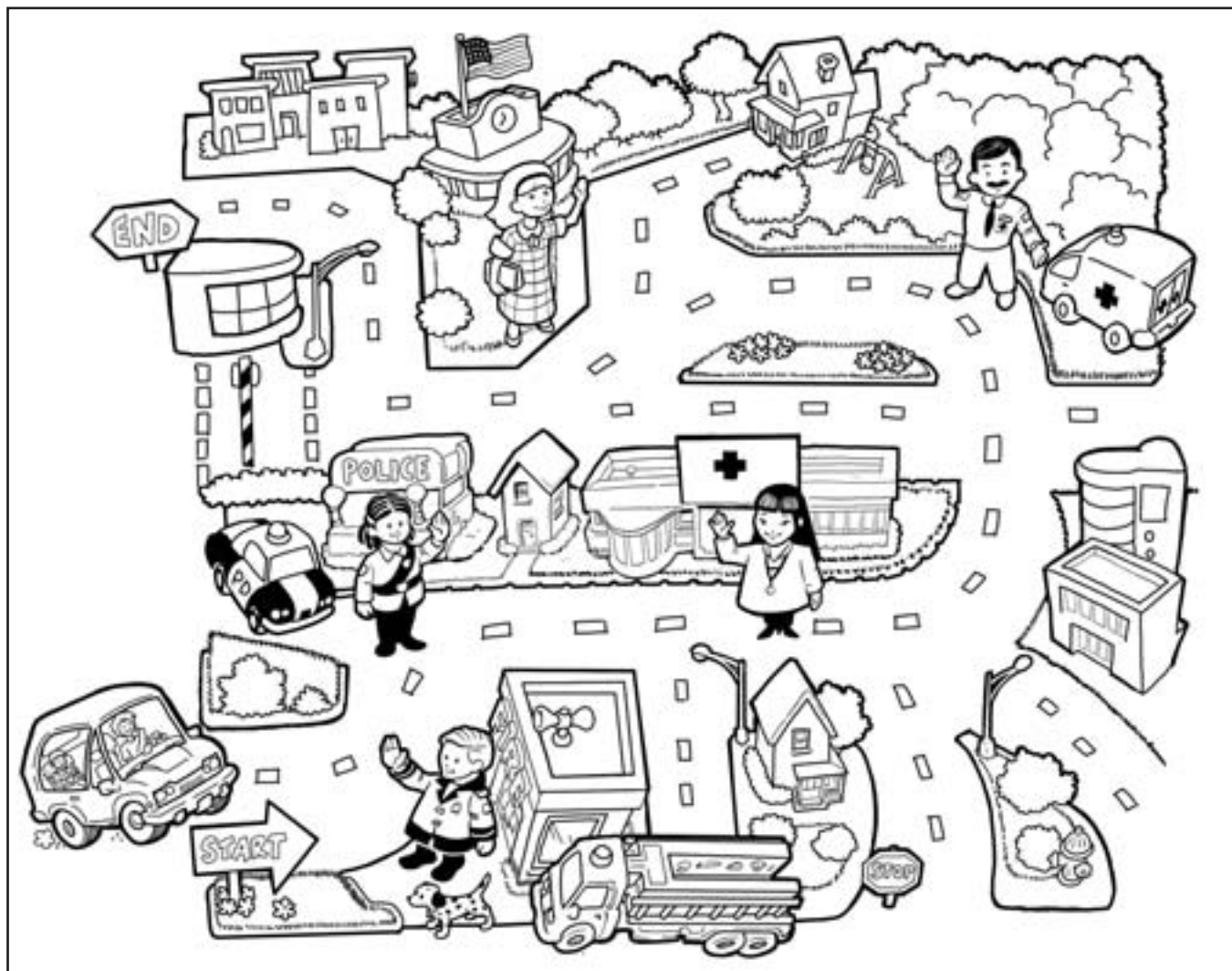




# A-mazing Booster Seat Journey

Make your way from street to street,  
Riding in your booster seat.  
Wave hello to each helper friend.  
Soon you'll reach your journey's **END**.

Draw a line on the road from **START** to **END**.  
Circle the 5 community helpers you see along the way.



Doctor



Firefighter



Paramedic



Police Officer



Teacher





# My Booster Seat Song

Here is a page that's full of fun —  
A song to sing and when you're done,  
You'll know the secret "booster" rule:  
That being **SAFE** is very **COOL**!

## Have You Seen My Booster Seat?

(Sung to the tune of "The Muffin Man")

### Lyric

### Children's Motions

Oh, have you seen my Booster Seat  
My Booster Seat, my Booster Seat  
Oh, have you seen my Booster Seat  
'Cause I'm not four-foot-nine.

Place hands above eyes, looking around the room

Hold hands high, as if measuring 4 feet, 9 inches,  
and shake heads "no"

I'll always use my Booster Seat  
My Booster Seat, my Booster Seat  
I'll always use my Booster Seat  
Until I'm four-foot-nine.

Nod "yes" and give thumbs up, high fives, etc.

Hold hands high, as if measuring 4 feet, 9 inches

I see GREAT from my Booster Seat  
My Booster Seat, my Booster Seat  
I see GREAT from my Booster Seat  
Until I'm four-foot-nine.

Make pretend binoculars with fingers, looking  
all around

Hold hands high, as if measuring 4 feet, 9 inches

My friends all use a Booster Seat  
A Booster Seat, a Booster Seat  
My friends all use a Booster Seat  
Until they're four-foot-nine.

Motion toward friends in the classroom, waving and  
shaking hands with each other

Hold hands high, as if measuring 4 feet, 9 inches

I'M SMART! I'll use my Booster Seat  
My booster seat, my booster seat.

Tap foreheads and nod, smiling at each other

I'M SMART! I'll use my booster seat  
Until I'm four-foot-nine.

Hold hands high, as if measuring 4 feet, 9 inches

HOORAY!!!!

Clap and cheer!





# Booster Seat Family Pledge

Parent/Caregiver: Read/repeat the first part aloud the first part with your child.  
Read the last part to your child, then sign your names.



## Adult and Child:

**"Every time we're in the car,  
No matter how near . . . no matter how far;  
Here is a promise that we make:  
A booster seat we will always take!"**

**With the booster seat buckled and fitting right,  
In rain or sun — morning, noon, or night.  
We'll follow our pledge and we will know  
That we'll be safe wherever we go!"**



Signed:

Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Child \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## Adult Alone:

**"Now, when you grow to four-feet-nine,  
Then a seat belt alone will be just fine.  
'Til then, a "booster" is where you'll be  
Because you mean so much to me!"**

Signed:

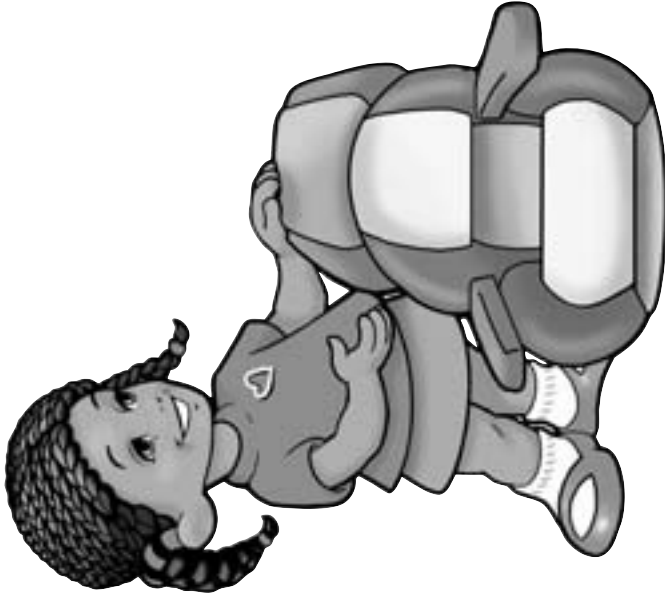
Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# The **Booster CLUB** **Award**

Presented to

[CHILD'S NAME]



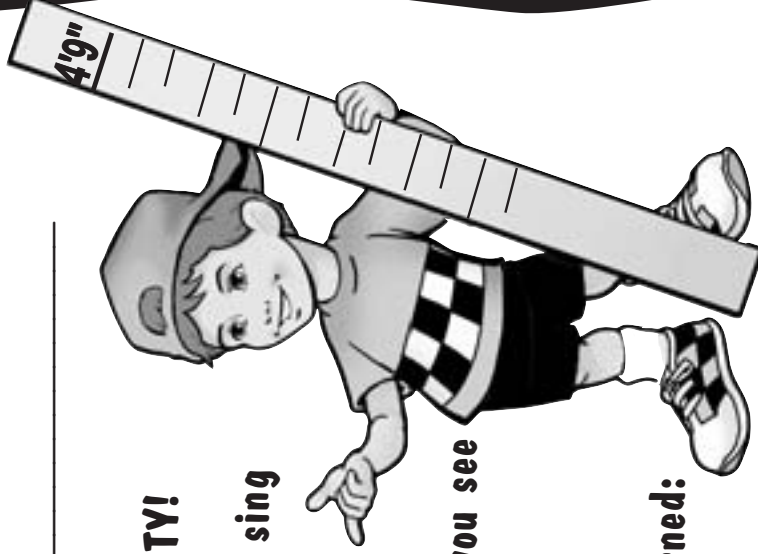
EDUCATOR

**USE A BOOSTER SEAT FOR SAFETY!**  
You have learned that lesson well  
With games to play and a song to sing  
And stories you can tell.

Use a booster seat for safety!  
It's more than just a rule.  
When you get a boost that helps you see  
You know that's very cool!

In your booster seat for safety  
You're as proud as proud can be.  
So here is something you have earned:  
An award for all to see!

**Good Job!**



DATE



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# Booster Seat Story Starter Pals

Tell me a story  
About riding in a car  
In a booster seat for safety  
On adventures near and far!

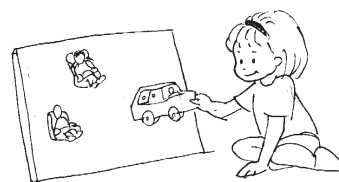
Share the rhyme and these characters to encourage children to make up their own stories about riding in a booster seat!



## Making Flannel Board Characters:

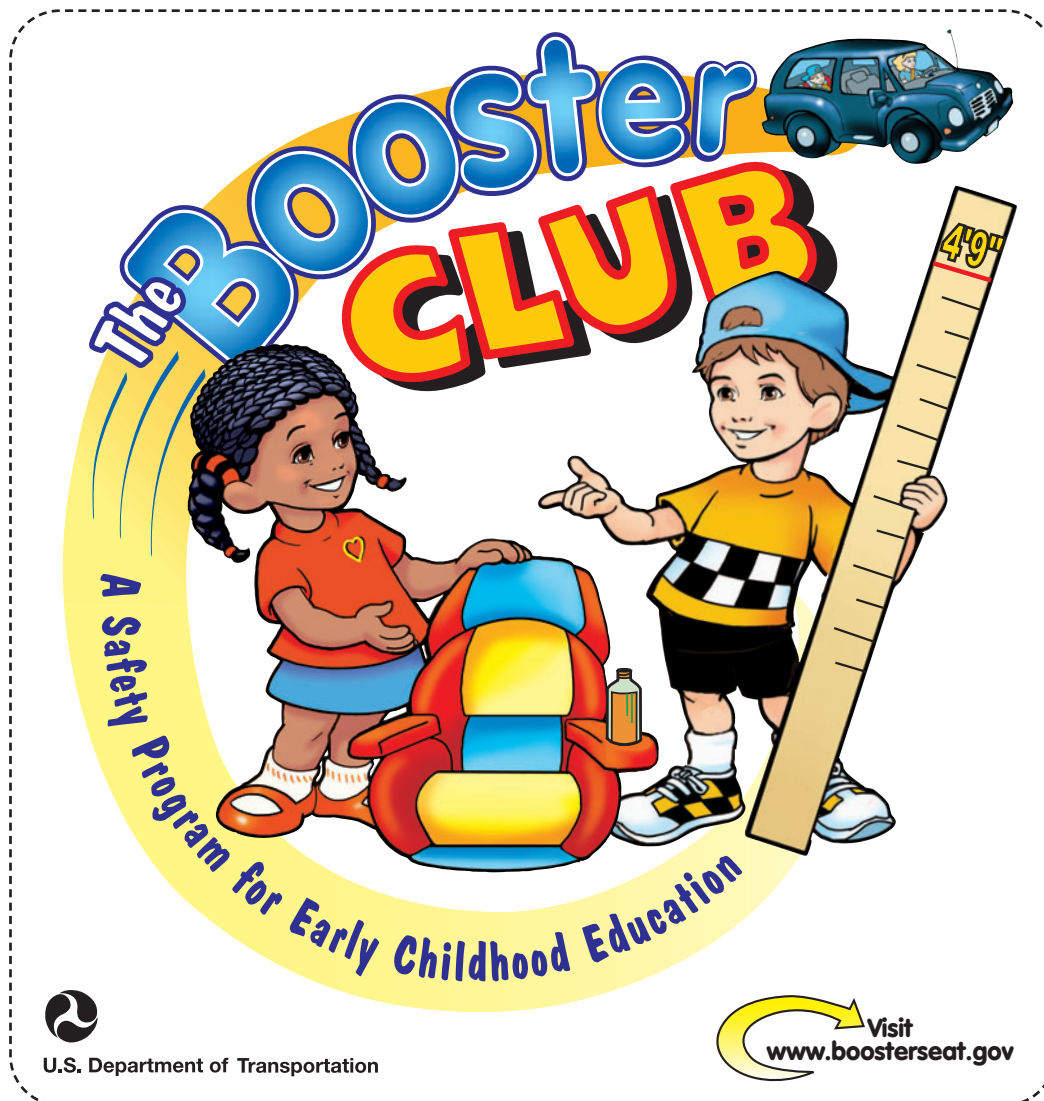
- To prepare the characters, photocopy the page (in color, if possible) or download it at [www.boosterseat.gov](http://www.boosterseat.gov).
- Laminate sheet to protect, then cut out the figures.
- Glue a large square of felt on the back of each.
- For story starter ideas, see Page 12 of this guide.

**Tips:** You can make a flannel board by covering a sturdy piece of cardboard with flannel or felt. The characters also can be used as stick puppets by gluing a craft stick to the back of each, in place of the felt.





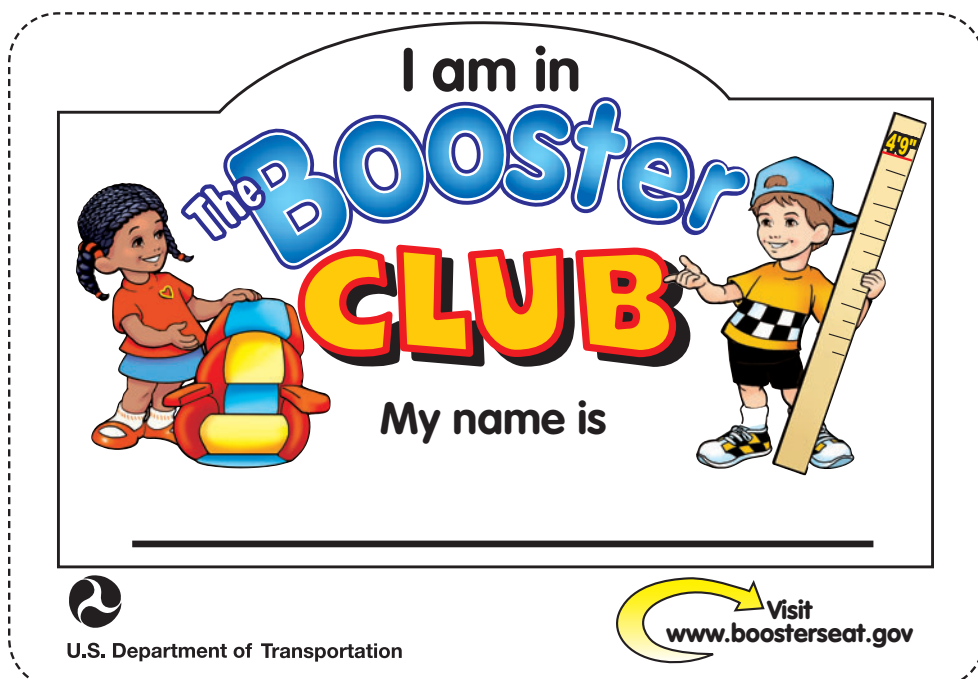
# Booster Club Decal



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## Booster Club Badge



### Making Your Decal and Badges:

- Photocopy the decal and badge (in color, if possible), one for each child. (You may also download it in color at [www.boosterseat.gov](http://www.boosterseat.gov))
- If possible, cover the finished decal and badge with clear self-stick paper to protect it.
- Give one to each family, and invite parents to tape it to the car window.

"The Booster Club" Education Program is brought to you by U.S. Department of Transportation.