

Is your child in the right seat?



“The Right Seat” resources and how to use them

About Child Safety Link

Child Safety Link is an injury prevention program at IWK Health dedicated to reducing the incidence and severity of unintentional injury to children and youth in the Maritimes. CSL is committed to working with community organizations, governments and other partners to ensure children are as safe as necessary at home, on the road and at play.

“The Right Seat” resources

The resources include a short, educational video and print resource presenting basic information from the original “Is your child in the right seat” postcard in English and 8 additional languages: French, Arabic, Mi’kmaq, Mandarin Chinese, Nepalese, Swahili, Somali and Tigrinya.

Purpose

The purpose of these resources is to support child passenger safety education for families in multiple languages and for families who may experience low literacy.

The videos

Each video is between 4 and 7 minutes long and helps the viewer determine if a child is in the right safety seat in a vehicle. Basic tips for how to use each type of seat are also presented. The images in these videos are of local families.

The print resources

Each print resource covers the same points as the video and can be printed with English on one side and each additional language on the other side. The print resource is intended to support an English speaker assisting a caregiver in the other language.

How to use these resources

These resources are designed to support you and the important work you do to promote child passenger safety and prevent injury. Some suggested ways to share this resource include:

- Add a session on child safety topics at the end of a parenting or pre-natal group, where you can present this and other resources. Contact us or visit our website for more resources on child passenger safety and other safety topics.
- Home visitors and parenting support programs can use these resources to supplement child and youth safety programming.
- If your organization provides free or subsidized car seats, schedule a few minutes to watch the video with families and answer any questions they might have. Remember, you can call our toll-free line for support.

“The Right Seat” resources and how to use them: frequently asked questions

Q: Who is this resource designed to support?

A: These videos may be useful for:

- Families who speak English as an additional language
- Families who are more comfortable using resources in another language
- Families who have low-literacy levels
- Families who prefer video resources

Q: I support a family who speaks a language not listed here. What should I do?

A: Please let us know and we will work with you to find a solution. This information also helps guide our future translation work.

Q: I need more car seat information. Where can I find more information?

A: All of the new resources (videos, print materials) plus additional child passenger safety information can be found at the following link: <https://childsafetylink.ca/the-right-seat/> Examples include:

- Getting started: is your car seat safe to use? (print): currently available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Arabic](#)
- How to use and choose your car seat (video): currently available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Arabic](#)
- Top 5 tips for a safe ride (print): currently available in [English](#) and [French](#)

Q: Why is child passenger safety important?

A: Motor vehicle collisions are the leading cause of fatal injury for Canadian children. Children are especially vulnerable to these injuries when they are not properly buckled in the right car seat, booster seat or seat belt. A [roadside study](#) of children in Nova Scotia found that 73% of car seats observed were installed or used incorrectly. Thirty percent (30%) of children observed using a booster seat did not meet the weight minimum (18 kg or 40 pounds) and should have been buckled in a harnessed seat, and 52% of children using the seat belt alone would have been safer using a booster seat. Together, we can help make sure that every family has the support they need to keep their children safe when riding in the car.

Child Safety Link is here for you.

**For additional support, contact Child Safety Link at email childsafetylink@iwk.nshealth.ca
or call 1-866-288-1388, extension 1 (toll-free in Atlantic Canada)**

