Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Curriculum

Unit 9



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Overview, Objectives and Words to Know

Unit 9 Introduction Lesson Content



Overview

Unit 9 is designed to help the student understand the substantial negative effects of distractions on a driver's ability to safely perform the driving task. Research and statistics demonstrate that distractions represent a significant factor in motor vehicle crashes, especially for novice drivers.

This unit will explore the definition of driving distractions, the various types of driver distractions, the effects of distractions on the driving task, costs related to crashes due to distracted driving, prevention of driving distractions and strategies for students to disseminate information on the distracted driving problem.



Objectives

The student will:

- 1. Define and describe the effects of distracted driving and the nature of the problem of distracted driving crashes.
- 2. Describe potential distractions that could occur inside the vehicle and their effects on the driving task.
- Describe potential distractions that could occur outside the vehicle and their effects on the driving task.
- 4. Develop a plan to prevent distractions before getting behind the wheel.
- 5. Develop a plan to address distractions while driving
- Commit to being a safe, distraction-free driver and be able to identify ways to disseminate information regarding the dangers and consequences of distracted driving to other teens, their parents, and the community.
- Define key words associated with the unit objectives.



Words to Know

- Distraction
- Inattention
- Inside distractions
- Mental distraction
- Outside distractions
- Physical distraction
- Rubbernecking
- Text messaging

Unit 9 Introduction Lesson Overview Time Frame – 3 hours			
Teacher Information and Resources			
Slides	PowerPoint Slides 9.1 – 9.32		
Videos	9.1 Faces of Distracted Driving: Kassy's Story (2 minutes 50 seconds) 9.2.1 Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction (13 minutes 27 seconds) 9.2.2 Ashley's Story (2 minutes 59 seconds) 9.6 Take the Pledge (1 minute 49 seconds)		
Video Review	9.2.1 Video Review: Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction9.6 Video Review: Take the Pledge		
Fact Sheets	9.1 Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving	9.4 Preventing Distractions Before Driving	
	9.2 Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	9.5 Addressing Distractions While Driving	
	9.3 Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle	9.6 Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving	
		9.7 Words to Know Definitions Page	
Worksheets	9.1 Am I Distracted? Self- Assessment Quiz	9.3 Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle	
	9.2.1 Potential In-Vehicle Distractions	9.5 Handling Distractions While Driving	
	9.2.2 Potential Dangers and Benefits of Cell Phones in Vehicles	9.7 Unit 9 Key Words to Know Matchup	
Learning Activities	9.0 Key Words – Word Wall9.1 Faces of Distracted Driving	9.2.2 Effects of Distractions Using Addition	
	(Video: Kassy's Story) 9.2.1 Touch of Reality (Video:	9.5 Role Playing: Addressing Driving Distractions	
	Ashley's Story)	9.6 Take the Pledge (Video: Take the Pledge)	
Textbooks	Preferred Textbook: HOW to DRIVE Chapter 13		
	Other Textbooks: <u>Drive Right</u> : Chapter 8		
	Responsible Driving: Chapter 2		
	Other Textbook:		
Unit 9 Test	nit 9 Test Unit 9 Test – The Effects of Distractions on Driving – 10 questions		

Unit 9 Activity Key Words Lesson Content



Unit Objectives:

Student will define the meaning of the key words in Unit 9

Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
ey Words	
Learning Activity 9.0 Throughout the instruction of Unit 9, conduct learning activity to help students with vocabulary and spelling of key words.	Learning Activity 9.0 Key Words – Word Wall

Learning Activity 9.0

Key Words – Word Wall



Topic

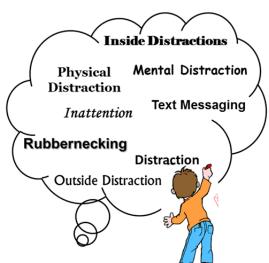
Word Wall

Information

Students begin to assimilate a new language in driver and traffic safety education. Some words are familiar, but others are new. The use of a word wall helps students with vocabulary and spelling as well as provides students with a tool for reference without "giving away" answers.

Materials Needed

- 1. Make word cards out of paper, poster board, or card stock cut in strips.
- 2 Markers in various colors
- 3. A space to post words (i.e., bulletin board).
- 4. Tape or stapler and staples to affix cards on the word wall.



Learning Activity

- 1. As the instructor introduces new words in a unit, the instructor should post these words on the word wall.
 - a. The instructor should remind students to use the words on the wall for recall and correct spelling.
 - b. When an instructor poses a question and a student correctly answers the question, the instructor should allow that student to make a word strip and post the strip in the designated location on the word wall. Because this is new learning, recalling words are part of the learning process.
 - c. Students often enjoy decorating their word with a particular flair, color, or design.
- 2. Words may remain posted for just the unit or remain posted throughout the course.

Unit Objectives, Definition, Effects and Nature of **Distracted Driving**

Part 1

Lesson Content



Lesson Objective:

Lesson Content

Student will define and describe the effects of distracted driving and the nature of the problem of distracted driving crashes.

Unit Objectives

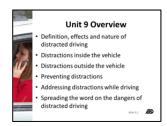
Materials and Resources

> Slides 9.1 and 9.2

Give an overview of what students should know and be able to do by the end of this unit.

➤ Slides 9.1 and 9.2: Title and Overview





Distracted Driving

➤ Slides 9.3 and 9.4 – Video 9.1

Discuss the topics covered in Video 9.1.

Play Video 9.1.

Faces of Distracted Driving: Kassy's Story

(Time: 2 minutes 50 seconds)

After viewing, complete Learning Activity 9.1 to discuss the students' reactions to the video.

➤ Slides 9.3 and 9.4: Video 9.1 Faces of Distracted Driving: Kassy's Story





Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving Video Overview 9.1



Video Overview 9.1: Faces of Distracted Driving: Kassy's Story

Title

Faces of Distracted Driving: Kassy's Story

Time

2 minutes 50 seconds

Topics Covered

1. Real life story about a teen driver who was texting with a friend while driving and was killed in a motor vehicle crash.

Learning Activity

1. After viewing the video, discuss the students' reactions to the video using the discussion questions provided.

Instructor Notes

Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving Lesson Conten		
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources	
Dangers of Distracted Driving		
Conduct this activity to demonstrate the dangers of distracted driving, using a real life story involving a teen driver who was killed in a motor vehicle crash while texting.	Learning Activity 9.1: Faces of Distracted Driving	

Learning Activity 9.1

Faces of Distracted Driving



Topic

The Dangers of Distracted Driving

Information

An estimated 80 percent of collisions involve some form of driver inattention (NHTSA and the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute). Each year, driver inattention is a factor in more than 1 million crashes in North America (AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety). Almost every state has legislation under which drivers can be charged for inattentive driving (NHTSA). Drivers under age 20 are most likely to be involved in distracted driving crashes almost 50% more likely than the next most at risk group (age 30-49).

Materials Needed

- 1. Video 9.1 Faces of Distracted Driving: Kassy's Story
- 2. Discussion questions

Learning Activity

1. After viewing Video 9.1 Faces of Distracted Driving: Kassy's Story discuss the students' reactions to the video and have a class discussion on the dangers of driving distracted and texting while driving, using the questions below.

Discussion Questions

- 1. What are your reactions to this video?
- 2. How does this video make you feel?



Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving Part 1 continued Lesson Content		
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources	
Am I Distracted?		
Am I Distracted? Worksheet 9.1 Duplicate and distribute Worksheet 9.1. Have students complete the self-assessment to determine if they or someone they know is a distracted driver. After completion, inform the students that one checked box means that they have been a distracted driver.	➤ Worksheet 9.1: Am I Distracted? Self-Assessment Quiz	

Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving Worksheet 9.1				
Am I Distracted? Self-Assessment Quiz				
Name	Date			
	quiz from the <i>National Road Safety Foundation</i> to determine if distracted driver. Your honest answers can save someone's life	5		
 Do you drive?				
	le driving, I / the person driving Buckle seatbelt while driving Adjust seat while driving Use a cell phone Use a hands-free device Send text messages / check email Read a GPS device / map Change stations / CD's Listen to an I-Pod Watch DVD's Apply makeup / shave Comb hair Eat / drink Catch yourself / someone else dozing off Reach for personal belongings Turn head to talk to fellow passengers Engage in intense conversation			
Source: N	ational Road Safety Foundation			

Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving Part 1 continued Lesson Content		
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources	
Definition and Effects of Distracted Driving		
 Fact Sheet 9.1 Duplicate and distribute Fact Sheet 9.1 for students to use as a resource and study guide. 	➤ Fact Sheet 9.1: Definition, Effects and Scope of Distracted Driving	
 Slide 9.5 Introduce the subject of distracted driving and inattention. Ask; why should distractions be discussed in the context of driving? 	Slide 9.5: Distracted Driving and Inattention Distracted Driving and Inattention Distracted driving — physical or mental activity unrelated to the task of driving Inattention — mental or emotional distraction unrelated to the task of driving	
Slide 9.6 Discuss the effects distractions can have on driving performance.	Slide 9.6: Effects of Distracted Driving • Slowed perception • Delayed decision making • Improper action	

Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving

Fact Sheet 9.1 Content Information

Definition and Effects of Distracted Driving

Distracted driving occurs any time a driver takes the eyes off the road, the hands off the wheel, and the mind off the primary task of driving.

Inattention occurs when a driver's attention drifts away from driving without having been influenced by an activity (i.e., mental and emotional).

Novice drivers should recognize that all drivers can become distracted while driving. Evidence shows that drivers whose attention is diverted away from the driving task are at increased risk of being in a crash.

Distractions are important to consider when driving.

- Drivers need to focus their attention on the driving task. To perform the complex task of driving successfully, drivers must pay full attention.
- Drivers whose attention becomes diverted from the driving task are more likely to experience a crash.
- There are many ways in today's driving environment for drivers to become distracted.
- Glancing away from the road for more than one second for any reason can be extremely dangerous. At 55 mph, a three second glance at a cell phone, messaging device or instrument panel will result in a vehicle moving nearly 250 feet – almost the length of a football field.
- Short glances at vehicle instrumentation or mirrors can be done safely if these scans are limited to less than one second and are related only to the driving task.
- In the rush to be on time or get ahead of traffic congestion, don't make the sometimesfatal mistake of attempting to multi-task behind the wheel. Remember that far too many of the drivers sharing the road with you might also be driving distracted.

Effects of distracted driving

- **Slowed perception** may cause drivers to be delayed in perceiving or completely fail to perceive an important traffic event.
- **Delayed decision making** can cause a driver's decision making process to be delayed, or cause a driver to choose an action inappropriate for the situation.
- Improper action can cause drivers to be delayed in taking the intended action or to make incorrect inputs to the steering, accelerator or brakes.

Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving Lesson Conte			
	Lesson Content		Materials and Resources
Nature of the Distracted Driving Crash Problem			
>	Slide 9.7	>	Slide 9.7: Nature of the Distracted Driving Crash Problem
	Ask students:		
	How prevalent is distraction as a cause of motor vehicle crashes?	? Tens are most likely to be involved in distracted driving crashes. Almost every state has legislation for distracted driving. Trs most likely to Tree most likely to	Crash Problem
	At what age are drivers most likely to experience crashes involving distracted driving?		more likely to get into a crash
	Discuss the nature of the distracted driving crash problem.		
> Slide 9.8	>	Slide 9.8: Common Distractions Among New Drivers	
	Discuss the distractions that are particularly hazardous to young drivers.	common Distractions Among New Drivers Talking on a cell phone Texting Adjusting radio	Common Distractions Among
Ask	Ask students:		Talking on a cell phone Texting Adjusting radio
	Why are these distractions more likely to or CD Talking to other Diverting attent	Talking to other occupants Diverting attention to person, object or event outside the vehicle	
T	To tell experiences they have had with these distractions.		
	To give other distractions they feel are likely to be a casual factor in a crash by a new driver.		

Definition, Effects and Nature of Distracted Driving

Fact Sheet 9.1 continued Content Information

Nature of the Distracted Driving Crash Problem

- Approximately 5,500 people are killed each year on U.S. roadways and an estimated 448,000 are injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted driving (NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts: Distracted Driving)
- Teen drivers (drivers under 20) are more likely than other age groups to be involved in a fatal crash where distraction is reported (NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts: Distracted Driving)
- Almost every state has legislation under which drivers can be charged for careless driving (NHTSA distracted driving website, www.distraction.gov)
- Research indicates that the burden of talking on a cell phone even if it's hands-free saps the brain of 39% of the energy it would ordinarily devote to safe driving. Drivers who use a hand-held device are more likely to get into a crash serious enough to cause injury. ((NHTSA distracted driving website, www.distraction.gov)
- Possible reasons for the over-involvement of drivers under age 20 in distracted driving. include:
 - Lack of driving experience
 - Lack of experience performing tasks which could cause distraction
 - Increased risk taking
 - Lack of familiarity with particular vehicles
 - Others
- While any driving distraction has the potential to cause a young driver to experience a crash, several specific distractions have been identified as particularly hazardous to voung drivers (under age 20), including:
 - Talking on a cell phone
 - Texting
 - Adjusting radio or CD
 - Talking to other occupants
 - Diverting attention to person, object or event outside the vehicle

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Part 2

Lesson Content



Lesson Objective:

	Materials and Resources
istracted Driving	
 Video Review 9.2.1 Duplicate and distribute Video Review 9.2.1. Students should complete the worksheet as they watch the video. 	 Video Review 9.2.1 and Answer Key: Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction
> Slides 9.9 and 9.10 – Video 9.2.1	➤ Slides 9.9 and 9.10: Video 9.2.1 Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to
Discuss the topics covered in Video 9.2.1.	Distraction
Play Video 9.2.1.	Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction
Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction	The topics covered in this video include: Nature of the distracted driving crash problem Types of distractions
(Time: 13 minutes 27 seconds)	-Real teen experiences with distracted driving and their consequences -How to prevent yourself from becoming distracted
After viewing, review Video Review 9.2.1 to gauge student understanding of the video.	Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction Video Review In the first real life situation, what should Suzette have done to keep her from being distracted? In the second situation, what should Josh have done? In the third situation, what should Brandi have done?

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Video Overview 9.2.1



Video Overview 9.2.1: Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction

Title

Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction

Time

13 minutes 27 seconds

Topics Covered

- 1. Nature of the distracted driving crash problem.
- 2. Types of distractions.
- 3. Real teen experiences with distracted driving and their consequences.
- 4. How to prevent yourself from becoming distracted.

Video Review

- 1. Have students complete a video review worksheet as they watch the video.
- 2. After viewing the video, review the worksheet to gauge students' understanding of the video.

Instructor Notes

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle Video Review 9.2.1 Video Review 9.2.1: Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction Name Date 1. What is the biggest cause of teen crashes? 2. What are some distractions discussed in the video? _____ 3. In the first real life situation, what should Suzette have done to keep her from being distracted while driving? 4. In the second real life situation, what should Josh have done to keep him from being distracted while driving? 5. In the third situation, what should Brandi have done to keep her from being distracted while driving?

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Video Review 9.2.1 ANSWER KEY

Video Review 9.2.1: Be Sensible: Don't Drive Yourself to Distraction ANSWER KEY

1. What is the biggest cause of teen crashes?

Answer: Distracted driving

2. What are some distractions discussed in the video?

Answer: Putting on make-up, eating, reading directions, changing radio or CD, using a cell phone

3. In the first real life situation, what should Suzette have done to keep her from being distracted while driving?

Answer: She should have done her make-up before driving or wait until she arrived at her destination

4. In the second real life situation, what should Josh have done to keep him from being distracted while driving?

Answer: Avoid changing the radio station or CD while driving. Select music before starting to drive or ask a passenger to be DJ. Keep the music volume low.

5. In the third situation, what should Brandi have done to keep her from being distracted while driving?

Answer: Not use cell phone while driving. Let voicemail pick it up or let a passenger answer. Wait until trip is completed and car safely stopped before making or taking a call.

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	e Part 2 Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Types of Distractions	
 Fact Sheet 9.2 Duplicate and distribute Fact Sheet 9.2 for students to use as a resource and study guide. 	➤ Fact Sheet 9.2: Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle
➢ Slide 9.11	➤ Slide 9.11: Types of Distractions
Discuss the different types of distractions.	Types of Distractions - Physical distraction – distraction that causes a driver to take his or her hands off the wheel - Mental distraction – distraction that takes the driver's mind away from the road - Both physical and mental distraction – even greater risk of a crash, talking on a cell phone
Duplicate and distribute Worksheet 9.2.1. Before discussing the potential in-vehicle distractions, give students a few minutes to list some in-vehicle distractions they can think of. Ask students to tell the class in-vehicle distractions they have listed.	➤ Worksheet 9.2.1 and Answer Key: Potential In-Vehicle Distractions

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.2

Content Information

Types of Distractions

There are many causes of distraction, all with the potential to increase risk.

- **Physical distraction** one that causes a driver to take his or her hands off the wheel or eyes off the road, such as reaching for an object.
- **Mental distraction** activities that take the driver's mind away from the road, such as engaging in conversation with a passenger or thinking about something that happened during the day.
- Both physical and mental distraction even greater chance a crash could happen, such as talking on a cell phone.

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle Worksheet 9.2.1				
Potential In-Vehicle Distractions				
Name	Date			
List any potential distractions that could occur inside a vehicle while driving.				
1				
2				
3.				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Worksheet 9.2.1 **Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle ANSWER KEY Potential In-Vehicle Distractions ANSWER KEY** Name Date List any potential distractions that could occur inside a vehicle while driving. 1. talking on a cell phone 2. texting 3. adjusting the radio, CD 4. passengers 5. eating or drinking 6. reading maps, newspapers 7. grooming (make-up, combing hair, shaving) 8. using navigation systems (GPS) 9. reaching for objects or picking up something that fell 10. adjusting vehicle controls (air conditioning, heat, mirrors, seat position) 11. objects in car (insect, trash) 12. *pets* 13. high radio volume 14. smoking 15. sneezing

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle Lesson C	
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Potential In-Vehicle Distractions Slide 9.12 Discuss potential distractions that could occur inside the vehicle.	Slide 9.12: Potential In-Vehicle Distractions Potential In-vehicle Distractions - Cell Phones - Reading - Foreign objects in car- insuect, trash - Adjusting the audio volume systems - Passengers - Passengers - Passengers - Passengers - Passengers - Reaching for objects
	Adjusting vehicle controls Using electronics, GPS Sneezing Main 122 Main 123 Main 125 Ma

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.2 continued

Content Information

Potential In-Vehicle Distractions

Today's vehicles and driving environment offer numerous ways for drivers' attention to become diverted from the driving task.

Some distractions could include:

- Interactive communication devices cell phones, smart phones
- Texting
- Grooming (applying makeup, combing hair, shaving, etc.)
- Adjusting the audio system-changing the channel, changing CDs, satellite radio
- Passengers infants, children, adults
- Eating or drinking
- Adjusting vehicle controls air conditioning system, tilt of steering wheel, mirrors, seat position, dash light brightness
- Using navigation systems, DVD players, dashboard control panel
- Reading (maps, books, newspapers, etc.)
- Foreign objects in car insect, trash
- High radio volume
- **Smoking**
- Pets
- Reaching for objects or picking up something that fell
- Sneezing

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	Part 2 continued Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Cell Phones	
➢ Slide 9.13	➤ Slide 9.13: Cell Phones
Discuss cell phone use and driving.	Cell Phones • Use has increased • Risk of collision increases by up to 400% • Drivers are 9% slower when hitting their brakes when needed
 Worksheet 9.2.2 Duplicate and distribute Worksheet 9.2.2. Before discussing the potential dangers and benefits of cell phones in vehicles, give students a few minutes to list dangers and benefits they can think of. Ask students to tell the class dangers and benefits they have listed. 	Worksheet 9.2.2 and Answer Key: Potential Dangers and Benefits of Cell Phones in Vehicles

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.2 continued Content Information

Cell Phones

Cell phone use in the U.S. has grown quickly during the past decade. Today almost everyone has a cell phone. Over 236 million people subscribe to wireless communication devices (*Insurance Information Institute*). 974,000 vehicles on the road at any given daylight moment are being driven by someone using a hand-held phone (NHTSA).

The primary responsibility of the driver is to operate a motor vehicle safely. To do this, a driver must focus his/her full attention on the driving task. Cell phones may distract drivers from this task. The safest option for a driver would be to refrain from cell phone use while driving.

- Risk of collision increases by up to 400% when talking on a cell phone while driving (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety)
- A study done with driving simulators, found that when talking on a cell phone (Virginia *Tech Transportation Institute*):
 - Young drivers' response times to brake lights ahead were as slow as those by elderly drivers.
 - Drivers of all ages were 9% slower in hitting their bakes when needed.

Young drivers are especially vulnerable to becoming distracted while using a cell phone. Additionally, modern cell phones are capable of more than spoken communication/ many can perform navigational functions, access the Internet, share photos and send and receive text messages. Today's cell phones hold even more potential for increased risk while driving.

Potent	ial Distractions Inside the Vehicle	Worksheet 9.2.2		
Potential Dangers and Benefits of Cell Phones in Vehicles				
Name	Ι	Oate		
List any	potential dangers of having an active cell phone in a mo	oving vehicle.		
1		-		
2.		-		
3.		_		
4.		_		
5.		_		
		-		
	potential benefits of having an active cell phone in a mo	oving vehicle.		
1		_		
2.		_		
3.		_		
		_		
		-		
		_		
7		_		

Worksheet 9.2.2 **Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle** ANSWER KEY Potential Dangers and Benefits of Cell Phones in Vehicles ANSWER KEY Name Date List any potential dangers of having an active cell phone in a moving vehicle. 1. Diverting attention away from the driving task 2. Looking away from the road and using one hand to drive in order to dial 3. Effect on maintaining proper lane position 4. Impact on ability to perceive potential problems 5. Ability to make quick decisions 6. Reduced situational awareness 7. Ability to execute emergency maneuvers List any potential benefits of having an active cell phone in a moving vehicle. 1. Ability to summon roadside assistance quickly in the event of a mechanical problem 2. Ability to contact law enforcement rapidly in the event of a personal or national security concern 3. Ability to contact emergency services quickly in response to a crash or emergency or medical situations

Part 2 continue	
Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	e Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Potential Dangers and Benefits of Cell Phones in Vehicles	
> Slide 9.14	➤ Slide 9.14: Potential Dangers of Using a Cell Phone While Driving
Discuss dangers of using a cell phone while driving.	Potential Dangers of Using a Cell Phone While Driving • Diverting attention away from the driving task • Looking away from the road and using one hand to drive • Ability to make quick decisions • Ability to execute emergency maneuvers
> Slide 9.15	➤ Slide 9.15: Potential Benefits of Cell Phones in Vehicles
Discuss safety benefits of having a cell phone in a car.	Potential Dangers of Using a Cell Phone While Driving Diverting attention away from the driving task Looking away from the road and using one hand to drive Ability to make quick decisions Ability to execute emergency maneuvers

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.2 continued

Content Information

Cell Phones

Potential dangers of using a cell phone while driving

- Diverting attention away from the driving task
- Looking away from the road and using one hand to drive in order to dial
- Effect on maintaining proper lane position
- Impact on ability to perceive potential problems
- Ability to make quick decisions
- Reduced situational awareness
- Ability to execute emergency maneuvers

The issue of distracted driving has been researched. Some studies indicate that using cell phones while driving may negatively affect drivers' performance because the device may cause cognitive distractions that are significant enough to degrade a driver's performance.

Note that hands-free devices are no less likely than hand-held cell phones to cause a driver to become distracted. Attention is diverted from the driving task while using either device.

Potential benefits of cell phones in vehicles

- Ability to summon roadside assistance quickly in the event of a mechanical problem
- Ability to contact law enforcement rapidly in the event of a personal or national security concern
- Ability to contact emergency services quickly in response to a crash or emergency or medical situations

Note that in all of the above situations, the driver would be the person initiating a phone call. None of the above situations would require that a cell phone be turned on until the situation warranted action. Thus, a driver could take full advantage of all safety benefits related to having a cell phone, without having the cell phone turned on while driving. Drivers should make efforts to move to a safe place, off the road, to make such calls. Depending on the urgency of the situation, drivers must use their best judgment.

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle Lesson C	
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Text Messaging	
	Slides 9.16 and 9.17: Video 9.2.2 Ashley's Story Ashley's Story The topics covered in this video include: The dangers of texting while driving Ashley's Story Video Review 1. Doyou know amone this has happened to? 2. Doyou know amone who has done this and gotten sawy with 1? 3. Could this happen to you or someone you know?

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Video Overview 9.2.2



Video Overview 9.2.2: Ashley's Story

Title

Ashley's Story

Time

2 minutes 59 seconds

Topics Covered

1. The dangers of texting while driving.

Learning Activity

2. After viewing the video, discuss the students' reactions to the video using the discussion questions provided.

Instructor Notes

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	e Part 2 continued Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Text Messaging	
Learning Activity 9.2.1 Conduct this activity to demonstrate the	➤ Learning Activity 9.2.1: Touch of Reality
Conduct this activity to demonstrate the dangers of driving while texting, using a real life story involving a teen driver who was killed in a motor vehicle crash while texting.	

Learning Activity 9.2.1

Touch of Reality



Topic

The Dangers of Texting While Driving

Information

Drivers under age 20 are most likely to be involved in distracted driving crashes almost 50% more likely than the next most at risk group (age 30-49). Texting is the most alarming distraction because it involves physical and mental distraction simultaneously. Sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for 4.6 seconds. At 55 mph, that's like the length of an entire football field, blindfolded. It's extraordinarily dangerous. (NHTSA)

Materials Needed

- 1. Video 9.2.2 Ashley's Story
- 2. Discussion questions

Learning Activity

1. After viewing Video 9.2.2 Ashley's Story discuss the students' reactions to the video and have a class discussion on the dangers of texting while driving, using the questions below.

Discussion Questions

- 1. How does this video make you feel?
- 2. Do you know anyone this has happened to?
- 3. Do you know anyone who has done this and gotten away with it?
- 4. Could this happen to you or someone you know?
- 5. Are you at risk?



Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	Part 2 continued Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Text Messaging	
Class Discussion	
Ask students: Who here has used your phone to send or receive text messages?	
How is texting different from talking on a cell phone?	
Discuss how texting is different from talking on a cell phone.	
Discuss how texting can impact driving and how you can look at the three tasks of driving to understand the effects of texting on driving.	Slide 9.18: How Texting Can Impact Driving How Texting Can Impact Driving • More riskler than talking on a cell phone • Requires driver to both look at the phone and manipulate the keypad **Substitute** **Substitute** **Substitute** **Substitute** **Substitute** **Property of the property of

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.2 continued Content Information

Text Messaging

Text messaging – the common term for sending short text messages from cell phones.

How is texting different from talking on a cell phone?

- Texting requires you to spend more time looking at the small screen on the cell phone than talking on the phone
- Text messages are typically shorter than conversations
- Texting may involve having two hands on the cell phone

How texting can impact driving

Evidence suggests that text messaging is even riskier than talking on a cell phone because it often requires the driver to look at the phone and manipulate the keypad with one's hands. Texting is the most alarming distraction because it involves manual, visual and cognitive distraction simultaneously.

Sending or receiving text takes a driver's eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds, the equivalent at 55 mph of driving the length of an entire football field, blind.

Effects of texting on driving

To understand the effects of texting on driving, you can look at the three tasks of driving:

- 1. Search the driver must search for what's going on in the driving environment
- 2. Evaluate the driver must use the information gained through perception to evaluate what to do about a particular situation
- 3. Execute the driver must execute or perform his/her decision

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	e Part 2 continued Lesson Conten			
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources			
Text Messaging				
Ask students, how could texting while driving affect a driver searching for what is going on around them?				
 Slide 9.19 Discuss how texting can affect the first step, searching. Ask students, how could texting while driving affect evaluating what to do in an unexpected situation? 	Slide 9.19: How Texting Affects Searching How Texting Affects Searching Could miss seeing an important change in your driving environment			
 Slide 9.20 Discuss how texting can affect the second step, evaluating. Ask students, how could texting while driving affect executing your decision? 	Slide 9.20: How Texting Affects Evaluating How Texting Affects Evaluating Decision making slows down, ability to make decisions is reduced			
Slide 9.21 Discuss how texting can affect the third step, executing.	Slide 9.21: How Texting Affects Executing How Texting Affects Executing Could fail to execute the driving maneuver you selected in the evaluate step When the second in the evaluate step with the second in the second in the evaluate step with the second in the second			

9-40

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.2 continued

Content Information

Text Messaging

Effects of texting on driving

1. Search

- If your attention is focused on texting, you could easily miss seeing an important change in your driving environment
 - A car pulling out in front of you
 - A signal light changing from yellow to red
 - A stop sign

2. Evaluate

- When your attention is divided, all decision making slows down
- As you add more tasks, your performance on each one becomes slower
- The more tasks you try to do at once, the less effective you are at any single task
- Your ability to make decisions is reduced because of the multiple tasks attempted

3. Execute

- You could fail to execute the driving maneuver you selected in the evaluate step
 - Fail to turn the steering wheel far enough or fast enough
- When texting, at least one hand is off the steering wheel and on the phone instead
 - Steering control is greatly reduced when you steer with just one hand
 - You need to have both hands on the steering wheel to effectively steer, especially in emergency situations
- You could fail to brake or accelerate at the right time or with the proper amount of pressure on the pedal

Perhaps the largest concern is texting's ability to impair the first step, searching:

- If your attention is devoted to texting and you fail to perceive the car stopping or turning in front of you, you will never even get to the second step (evaluate).
- Even if you typically make great decisions and have excellent vehicle control skills, if you don't perceive the need to activate these skills because you failed in searching, you are far more likely to experience a collision.

Texting may be even more dangerous than talking on a cell phone since the driver must often take his/her eyes off the roadway to look at the small screen on the phone.

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicl	e Part 2 continued Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Effects of Distractions on Driving	
Conduct this activity to demonstrate how the addition of multiple tasks can affect a driver's ability to maintain adequate attention to the primary task: driving. There are three types of ways to conduct this activity. You may choose any of the following ways: 1. Student sorts a deck of playing cards into 4 piles by suit as instructor asks addition problems. 2. Student checks off numbers in ascending order as instructor asks addition problems. 3. Student checks off letters in ascending order as instructor asks addition problems. Emphasize that the driver is completely and solely responsible for operating his or her vehicle in a safe manner. This includes the responsibility for controlling everything that occurs inside the vehicle as well. If a distracted driver experiences a crash, the responsibility falls on the driver, not the distraction.	Learning Activity 9.2.2: Card Sorting and Distraction

Learning Activity 9.2.2

Effects of Distractions Using Addition



Topic

The Effects of Distractions on Driving

Information

New drivers often think they can handle multiple tasks while driving. This activity demonstrates how the addition of multiple tasks can affect a driver's ability to maintain adequate attention to the primary task: driving and the need to place our primary focus on driving when we are behind the wheel.

Materials Needed

- 1. Deck of playing cards, or number or letter matrix (depending on which type you choose)
- 2. Stopwatch

Learning Activity

- 1. Select one student to perform the exercise.
- 2. Time how long it takes the student to sort a deck of cards into 4 piles by suit (hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades), or check off each number or letter in ascending order, appearing in the matrixes on the next pages. Begin with 01, end with 36 or begin with A and end with Y.
- 3. Share the elapsed time with the class.
- 4. Repeat step 2, but while reading addition problems (see below) aloud to the student. Ask the student to answer as many problems correctly as possible (whether the answers are correct or not is not relevant. The addition task is to provide a distractor).
- 5. Share the second elapsed time with the class, explaining that the more tasks the brain is required to perform at one time, the longer it takes to perform any single one.
- 6. Use the following formula to calculate the percentage increase in time to sort the cards by suit the second time:

% Change =
$$\frac{2nd \text{ time} - 1st \text{ time}}{1st \text{ time}}$$

Addition Problems

14+7	16+6	19+8	9+2	11+6	6+17	17+7	15+8	5+18	13+7
8+17	12+9	6+11	4+11	4+13	11+12	9+7	4+7	13+8	5+13
15+14	18+7	8+13	16+17	7+10	12+17	12+7	9+14	3+16	6+17
9+3	16+5	17+3	5+19	5+16	5+18	6+13	7+17	18+7	13+4
9+7	14+14	16+15	10+7	8+13	15+8	8+11	9+13	11+14	7+9

Learning Activity 9.2.2	Effects	of Distrac	tions Usi	ng Additio	on – Number Matrix
06	17	23	14	01	20
26	31	04	28	33	25
13	19	35	08	12	07
24	10	02	32	36	16
05	29	18	21	34	03
22	09	15	11	30	27

Learning Activity 9.2.2	Effects	of Distract	tions Usin	g Addition – Letter M	atrix
R	D	N	Н	В	
L	G	S	X	P	
С	W	J	K	V	
U	A	M	E	T	
I	F	Y	О	Q	

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	Part 2 continued Lesson Conten			
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources			
Audio and Navigation Systems				
➤ Slide 9.22	➤ Slide 9.22: Audio and Navigation Systems			
Discuss audio and navigation systems in vehicles and the benefits and dangers of audio and navigation systems.	Audio and Navigation Systems Radio, satellite, CD players Benefits – access to music, news, travel and weather Potential distractions – adjusting controls takes hand off wheel, loud volume			

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.2 continued

Content Information

Audio and Navigation Systems

Almost every vehicle sold in the US today contains an audio system and many vehicles today also have navigation systems or drivers who have smart phones with GPS systems. Components of such systems could include:

- AM/FM receivers
- Satellite receivers
- CD players
- Supplementary speakers

Benefits of audio or navigation systems

There can be several benefits to having an audio system or navigation system in a vehicle. Some of these could include:

- Having access to music and other programming to help pass the miles
- Gaining the latest information on local, national and international events
- Obtaining road travel reports on weather, construction, road closures and crashes
- Used wisely, audio systems can help keep drivers' minds engaged
- Help with finding an unfamiliar route or location

Potential distractions regarding audio and navigation systems

- Adjusting the vehicle's audio controls or navigation tools
 - Research shows that young drivers are especially susceptible to becoming distracted while attempting to adjust their vehicle's audio controls.
 - Adjusting any vehicle's audio controls almost always involves the driver reaching for a knob or button. Often, this action requires that the driver's eyes be diverted from the driving scene for some period of time.
 - Moving one's eyes and having to refocus on the shorter distance between the eyes and the dash or steering wheel, even for a short time, can result in a complete discontinuation of visual feedback from the driving scene.
- Setting the audio system volume too loud
- A driver could miss out on important information that is obtained through the ears, including: emergency vehicle's sirens, horns or screeching tires.

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle	Part 2 continued Lesson Content			
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources			
Vehicle Passengers				
➤ Slide 9.23	➤ Slide 9.23: Vehicle Passengers			
Discuss driving with passengers in the vehicle and how they can be a distraction to driving.	Vehicle Passengers - Talking / yelling - Throwing objects - Hanging out of vehicle - Velling outside vehicle - Unexpectedly adjusting vehicle controls or audio system			

Potential Distractions Inside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.2 continued

Content Information

Vehicle Passengers

Having other occupants in the vehicle could become distraction as well.

Occupants could distract the driver by:

- Talking to or yelling at the driver
- Throwing objects inside or outside the vehicle
- Partially hanging out of the vehicle
- Yelling at persons outside the vehicle
- Unexpectedly adjusting audio system controls
- Unexpectedly adjusting vehicle controls
- Much more...

Research indicates that, for young drivers, the greater number of similarly-aged occupants aboard, the more likely a crash is to occur. This is a major reason why many states' graduated driver licensing systems restrict the number of similarly-aged passengers that can be in a vehicle with a novice driver.

Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle

Part 3

Lesson Content



▲ Lesson Objective:

Student will be able to describe potential distractions that could occur outside the vehicle and their effects on the driving task

vehicle and their effects on the drivin			
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources		
Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle			
Worksheet 9.3	 Worksheet 9.3: Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle 		
Duplicate and distribute Worksheet 9.3. Before discussing the potential distractions outside the vehicle, give students a few minutes to list some distractions outside of the vehicle they can think of.			
Ask students to tell the class distractions outside the vehicle they have listed.			
> Fact Sheet 9.3	➤ Fact Sheet 9.3: Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle		
Duplicate and distribute Fact Sheet 9.3 for students to use as a resource and study guide.			
➤ Slide 9.24	➤ Slide 9.24: Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle		
Discuss potential distractions outside of the vehicle.	Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle Outside traffic Other vehicles Crash scenes / Police rubbernecking Reading billboards Animal in or near Sunlight / sunset roadway Other — waved ahead by driver, bicyct, tire blowout		

Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle

Fact Sheet 9.3

Content Information

Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle

Not all potentially distracting events occur within the vehicle. Many possible events and situations could occur outside a vehicle that could capture a driver's attention.

- Outside traffic vehicle swerved, turned in front of, changed lanes, slowed or stopped, encroached on lane
- Crash scenes / rubbernecking
- Animal in or near roadway deer, dog, other animal
- Road construction
- People / objects in roadway child in road, people walking, basketball game, crowd, broken glass, garbage can, etc.
- Other vehicles
- Police someone pulled over, someone being chased by police, officer directing traffic, someone thought they saw police
- Reading billboards or other road advertisements
- Sunlight / sunset
- Other waved ahead by driver, another person or driver, parachutes in sky, bicycle, toll booth, brush obstructing vision, tire blowout, etc.

Crash scenes (Rubbernecking)

Certainly a crash scene would have the ability to grab a driver's attention. However, it has been found that crash scenes also tend to hold a driver's attention, keeping him or her from focusing on the driving task. Thus, some drivers tend to maintain eye contact with a crash scene, even beyond the point that they pass the scene. This phenomenon, sometimes referred to as "rubbernecking," can be quite dangerous, increasing the chance of experiencing a collision.

Attention-grabbing events occurring outside the vehicle will likely be surprising and/or rare, such as a crash or sighting a hot air balloon. While these may be interesting events, drivers must remember that safe driving remains the priority.

Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle	Worksheet 9.3					
Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle						
Name	Date					
List any potential distractions that could occur outside a veh	nicle while driving.					
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6.						
7						
8						
9						
10						

Worksheet 9.3 Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle ANSWER KEY Potential Distractions Outside the Vehicle Name Date List any potential distractions that could occur outside a vehicle while driving. 1. Crash scenes/rubbernecking 2. Animal in or near roadway 3. Road construction 4. People / objects in roadway 5. Other vehicles 6. Police / someone pulled over 7. Reading billboards or other road advertisements 8. Sunlight / sunset

Preventing Distractions Before Driving

Part 4

Lesson Content



Lesson Objective:

Student will develop a plan to prevent distractions before getting behind the wheel.

and distractions before getting bening the wheel.				
Materials and Resources				
➤ Fact Sheet 9.4: Preventing Distractions Before Driving				
 Slide 9.25: Preventing Distractions Before Driving 				
Preventing Distractions Before Driving Assess potential distractions before driving Develop plan to reduce/eliminate distractions Expect distractions to occur Discuss possible scenarios before driving				
➤ Slide 9.26: Develop a Plan				
Develop a Plan Turn off all communication devices Ask passengers to behave responsibly Determine travel routes or program GPS before driving Eat before driving Ou your personal grooming at home Properly buckle children Secure pets in a pet carrier				

Preventing Distractions Before Driving

Fact Sheet 9.4

Content Information

Preventing Distractions Before Driving

A driver's goal should be to eliminate all in-vehicle distractions before driving begins. Accomplishing this goal can be done by:

- Assessing all potential in-vehicle distractions before driving
- Developing a preventative plan to reduce/eliminate possible distractions
- Expecting distractions to occur
- Discussing possible scenarios before getting behind the wheel

Develop a preventive plan to reduce/eliminate possible distractions. Based on the assessment of potential distractions, drivers can formulate a plan to prevent these sources from resulting in distraction.

This could include:

- Turning off all communication devices
- Securing commitment from other occupants to behave responsibly and to support the driver in reducing distractions
- Securing all loose items in the vehicle-pets, handbags, containers, safety kits, umbrellas, flashlights, other personal items
- Familiarizing yourself with your vehicle's features and equipment, before you get behind the wheel
- Adjusting all vehicle controls to the driver's preferences
- Determining exact travel routes or programming the GPS before you drive
- Adjusting to any personal conditions that could become distracting
- Eating before driving or leave early to allow yourself time to stop to eat
- Doing your personal grooming at home, before you drive
- Properly buckling children and giving them books, toys or games to occupy them
- Securing pets in a pet carrier or portable kennel before moving your vehicle

Just a little preparation in advance by drivers could go a long way toward preventing distractions from occurring. Efforts to prevent distractions before driving pay off. It is much better to not deal with distractions at all than to have to address distractions in a moving vehicle.

Addressing Distractions While Driving

Part 5

Lesson Content



Lesson Objective:

Student will develop a plan to address distractions while driving.

C	Student will develop a plan to address	35 G 11	waterions white driving.
	Lesson Content		Materials and Resources
Add	ressing Distractions While Driving		
>	Fact Sheet 9.5 Duplicate and distribute Fact Sheet 9.5 for students to use as a resource and study guide.	A	Fact Sheet 9.5: Addressing Distractions While Driving
>	Slide 9.27 Discuss how to address distractions while driving.	A	Slide 9.27: Addressing Distractions While Driving Addressing Distractions While Driving Let voice mail or other passengers take message Minimize adjustment to audio or navigation system while driving, ask passengers to adjust Avoid arguments and stressful or emotional conversations
>	Worksheet 9.5 Duplicate and distribute Worksheet 9.5. Have students complete the worksheet. Review the answers.	A	Worksheet 9.5: Handling Distractions While Driving

Addressing Distractions While Driving

Fact Sheet 9.5

Content Information

Addressing Distractions While Driving

By giving advanced thought toward addressing in-vehicle distractions, new drivers can be better prepared to actually deal with these distractions.

Cell phones

The best practice would be to refrain from talking on a cell phone while driving. Utilize voice mail or other passengers for help with taking cell phone calls or text messages. Pick up your messages later, once you have completed driving. In emergency situations, it is the responsibility of the driver to use his/her best discretion. If you have to call or text, pull off the road safely or and stop or stop in a safe parking area (depending on the urgency of the situation, drivers must use their best judgment)

Do not use a hands-free device. It is not any safer than holding a cell phone in your hand; research indicates no differences in risk between the two modes. Both are capable of diverting a driver's attention.

Audio and navigation systems

- Adjust vehicle controls before you begin your trip, take advantage of normal stops to adjust controls.
- Minimize any adjustment to the audio or navigation system while driving.
- Ask passengers to adjust controls or input navigation information.
- The audio system's volume should be put at a level that always permits the driver to be fully aware of any warning sounds in the traffic environment.

Vehicle occupants

In the unlikely event of an extreme situation, the driver, who is responsible for and in control of his or her vehicle, must decide whether an occupant or occupants should be removed from the vehicle.

Avoid arguments and stressful or emotional conversations with passengers that may distract your attention from the road.

Pull safely off the road and out of traffic to deal with children.

Addr	Addressing Distractions While Driving Worksheet 9.5			
	Handling Distractions While Driving			
Name	Name Date			
	steps would you take to address the following distracti driving?	ons, should one or more occur		
1.	1. A distracting occupant, who is approximately your own age			
2.	A distracting infant?			
3.	Vehicle controls requiring adjustment? (mirrors, seat petc.)	position, steering wheel position,		
4.	Getting lost or having to make a route change caused	by road construction		
5.	A loose object, rolling around on the rear floorboard			
6.	A ringing cell phone?			

Addressing Distractions While Driving

Worksheet 9.5

ANSWER KEY

Handling Distractions While Driving ANSWER KEY

Name Date

What steps would you take to address the following distractions, should one or more occur while driving?

1. A distracting occupant, who is approximately your own age

Tell the passenger to act responsibly and not distract you

2. A distracting infant?

Pull safely off the road and out of traffic to deal with children

3. Vehicle controls requiring adjustment? (mirrors, seat position, steering wheel position, etc.)

Pull safely off the road and out of traffic to adjust these controls. Best to adjust before vou drive.

4. Getting lost or having to make a route change caused by road construction

Pull safely off the road and out of traffic to look at a map or GPS, do not become distracted by the road construction.

5. A loose object, rolling around on the rear floorboard

Leave it alone and wait until you stop to retrieve it. Best to secure objects before driving.

6. A ringing cell phone?

Let the phone ring and return messages later.

Addressing Distractions While Driving	Part 5 continued Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Addressing Driving Distractions	
➤ Learning Activity 9.5 Conduct this activity to demonstrate how to best handle distractions while driving.	Learning Activity 9.5: Role Playing: Addressing Driving Distractions

Learning Activity 9.5

Role Playing: Addressing Driving Distractions



Topic

Addressing Driving Distractions

Information

Driver distractions may occur anytime and anywhere. Distracted driving can cause collisions, resulting in injury, death or property damage. New drivers need to learn how to address distractions while driving. This activity will help new drivers understand how to best handle distractions while driving.

Materials Needed

1. List of scenarios below

Learning Activity

- 1. Read one of the following scenarios.
- 2. Select a student to respond.
- 3. Discuss the correct answer.

You are driving along at a safe speed and:

- You wish to change CDs. There is a passenger in the front seat next to you.
- Your cell phone rings. You are the only person in the vehicle.
- Your cell phone rings. There is a passenger in the front seat next to you.
- You approach a crash scene at which EMS has arrived, so that your assistance is not required. One car is overturned.
- Your large beverage spills onto the center console. There is a passenger in the front seat next to you.
- You wish to change the tilt level of the steering wheel.
- You turn into the sun, which is low on the horizon. This makes it much more difficult to look far ahead.
- Your dog, riding in the back seat, tries to force itself into the front seat area.
- You notice four large, colorful hot air balloons in the sky off to your right.
- You become hungry and must eat a sandwich that you brought along for the trip.
- You enter an unfamiliar area where you are trying to locate an address. Your map is on the passenger-side floorboard, out of easy reach.
- You need to input new destination information into your on-board navigation system.
- You notice several deer along the roadside ahead. They appear to be about to cross the roadway.
- You enter a busy construction zone that includes flag personnel. Your radio volume is at a high level.

Addressing Distractions While Driving	Part 5 continued Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Addressing Driving Distractions	
 Slide 9.28 Discuss a drivers' responsibility while driving. Emphasize that a driver is completely and solely responsible for operating his or her vehicle in a safe manner. 	Slide 9.28: Drivers' Responsibility While Driving Drivers' Responsibility While Driving Be aware of potential distanction and cocurrence one of cocurrence one of cocurrence one of the distraction of th

Addressing Distractions While Driving

Fact Sheet 9.5

Content Information

Addressing Distractions While Driving

In Summary:

- Distractions can occur while driving.
- Young drivers are especially susceptible to distraction while driving.
- Distracted driving can cause collisions, resulting in injuries, deaths and property damage. Costs associated with such crashes, including those resulting from criminal and civil proceedings can be extremely high.
- With some forethought and pre-drive planning, drivers can prevent many potential distractions from taking place while driving.
- By developing a plan to deal with distractions that might occur while driving, drivers can become that much better prepared and equipped to deal with those that do occur.
- The potential for drivers to become distracted is expected only to increase over time.

Drivers' responsibility while driving

- Many drivers currently engage in many distraction-causing activities, without giving any consideration to how their driving might be negatively affected. The responsible driver will be aware of potential distractions and minimize both the chance of these occurring and the negative impact should they occur.
- Of most importance, a driver must maintain his or her attention to the driving task. While a distracting event could be considered a negative event, the results of a crash caused by the event could be far worse.
- The driver is completely and solely responsible for operating his or her vehicle in a safe manner. This includes the responsibility for controlling everything that occurs within the vehicle as well. If a distracted driver experiences a crash, the responsibility falls upon the driver, not the distraction.

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving

Part 6

Lesson Content



Lesson Objective:

Student will commit to being a safe, distraction-free driver and be able to identify ways to disseminate information regarding the dangers and consequences of

distracted driving to other teens, their parents, and the community.		
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources	
Take the Pledge ➤ Video Review 9.6 Duplicate and distribute Video Review	➤ Video Review 9.6: Take the Pledge	
 9.6. Students should complete the worksheet as they watch the video. Slides 9.29 and 9.30 – Video 9.6 	➤ Slides 9.29 and 9.30: Video 9.6 <i>Take the</i>	
Discuss the topics covered in Video 9.6. Play Video 9.6. Take the Pledge (Time: 1 minute 49 seconds) After viewing, review Video Review 9.6 to gauge student understanding of the video.	Take the Pledge Video Review 1. What is the purpose of taking the pledge? Do you think this is something that would enourage you to not text and drive? 3. How can you become involved in letting other teens know the dangers of distracted distracted distracted driving?	

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving

Video Overview 9.6



Video Overview 9.6: Take the Pledge

Title

Take the Pledge

Time

1 minute 49 seconds

Topics Covered

1. How a high school in New Jersey led a campaign to get students to take the pledge to not drive distracted.

Video Review

- 1. Have students complete a video review worksheet as they watch the video.
- 2. After viewing the video, review the worksheet to gauge students' understanding of the video.

Instructor Notes

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving Video Overview 9.6			
	Video Review 9.6: Take the Pledge		
Name		Date	
1.	What is the purpose of taking the pledge	?	
2.	Do you think this is something that would	ld encourage you to not text and drive and why?	
3.	How can you become involved in letting driving?	g other teens know the dangers of distracted	

Sprea Drivi	nding the Word on the Dangers of I	Distracted	Video Overview 9.6 ANSWER KEY	
	Video Review 9.6: Take the Pledge ANSWER KEY			
Name		Date		
1.	What is the purpose of taking the pledge? Answer: Gives teens knowledge to unders encourages them to not text and drive.		stracted driving and	
2.	Do you think this is something that would encourage you to not text and drive?		text and drive?	
3.	How can you become involved in letting other teens know the dangers of distracted driving?		angers of distracted	

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving Part 6 Lesson Content		
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources	
Take the Pledge		
Learning Activity 9.6	➤ Learning Activity 9.6: Take the Pledge	
Conduct this activity to help spread the word on the dangers of distracted driving by having students take the pledge to not drive and text.		

Learning Activity 9.6

Take the Pledge



Topic

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving

Information

New drivers are more likely to become distracted while driving and be involved in distracted driving crashes. Educators play a crucial role in helping students develop safe driving habits that can last a lifetime. This activity will help students get the message on distracted driving and commit to not driving while distracted.

Materials Needed

- 1. Pledge forms (included)
- Bulletin board covered with paper or poster (optional)
- Ink pad (optional)
- Thumb rings (a ring for your thumb, as shown in the video) with "Texting Kills" written on them for each student (optional)



Flyer with distracted driving facts (optional - included)

Learning Activity

- Set up a table in the classroom (for classroom students) or outside classrooms, in your cafeteria, or at a sports event (for students in the high school).
- Make copies of the pledge form and have students sign and commit to not driving distracted

Optional

- Using the "Take the Pledge" video as a resource, have a bulletin board with paper or poster attached and available for students to "take the pledge."
- Using an ink pad, have students apply ink to their thumb and place it on the bulletin board, making a commitment not to text and drive.
- Hand out thumb rings to each student.
- Pass out brochure or flyer with distracted driving facts and statistics.

Learning Activity 9.6

Pledge Form



TAKE THE PLEDGE

The fight to end distracted driving starts with you. Make the commitment to drive phone-free today.

Distracted driving kills and injures thousands of people each year. I pledge to:

- · Protect lives by never texting or talking on the phone while
- · Be a good passenger and speak out if the driver in my car is distracted.
- · Encourage my friends and family to drive phone-free.

SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	



Learning Activity 9.6

Distracted Driving Flyer

1. Is distracted driving really a problem?

Distracted driving kills. The friends, family, and neighbors of the thousands of people killed each year in distracted driving crashes will tell you it is a very serious safety problem. The nearly half a million people injured each year will agree.



2. What is distracted driving?

Distraction occurs any time you take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel, and your mind off your primary task: driving safely. Any non-driving activity you engage in is a potential distraction and increases your risk of crashing.

3. I'm a pretty good driver. Can't some people text or talk on the phone and drive safely?

No, they can't. Research indicates that the burden of talking on a cell phone - even if it's hands-free - saps the brain of 39% of the energy it would ordinarily devote to safe driving. Using a cell phone while driving delays your reaction time as much as having a blood alcohol concentration of .08, the legal limit for drunk driving. Drivers who use a hand-held device are 4 times more likely to get into a crash serious enough to cause injury. Texting drivers are 23 times more likely to get involved in a crash.

4. Who are the most serious offenders?

Our youngest and most inexperienced drivers are most at risk, with 16% of all distracted driving crashes involving drivers under 20. But they are not alone. At any given moment during daylight hours, over 800,000 vehicles are being driven by someone using a hand-held cell phone.

5. What can I do to prevent me from becoming a distracted driver?

Turn off all communication devices, secure commitment from other occupants to behave responsibly and to support the driver in reducing distractions, secure all loose items, familiarize yourself with your vehicle's features and equipment, determine exact travel routes or program the GPS before you drive, eat before driving or leave early to allow yourself time to stop to eat, do your personal grooming at home, properly buckle children and give them books, toys or games to occupy them, secure pets in a pet carrier or portable kennel before moving your vehicle.

Take the pledge to drive phone-free and turn your cell phone off when you turn your ignition on. And if you're a passenger, make sure your driver does the same.

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving Part 6 Lesson Content		
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources	
Get Teens Involved		
> Fact Sheet 9.6 Part I	Fact Sheet 9.6 Part I: Teen Involvement	
Duplicate and distribute Fact Sheet 9.6 Part I for student's to use as a resource.		
> Slide 9.31	➤ Slide 9.31: Get Involved	
Discuss how teens can get involved to end distracted driving.	Get Involved - Take the pledge - Speak up - Spread the word - Take the pledge - Speak up - Spread the word - Take the pledge - Speak up - Spread the word	

Spre Driv	reading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Fact Sheet 9.6 Part 1 Content Information		
Get Involved			
1.	Take the pledge – commit to being a safe, distraction-free driver. Keep the pledge form in your car or locker as a reminder to stay off the phone when you're driving.		
2.	Speak up – don't stop at being a great driver, be a great passenger. Make sure to call our your friends, and even your parents, if you see them using a cell phone or being distracted behind the wheel.		
3.	Spread the word – get involved in promoting safe driving in your community. Hang up posters, host an event on distracted driving or start a NSSP (National Student Safety Program) chapter at your school.		

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving Lesson Cont				
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources			
Have Parents Get Involved				
> Fact Sheet 9.6 Part II	Fact Sheet 9.6 Part II: Parent Involvement			
Reinforce your safe driving message by sending a letter and parent-teen driving contract home to parents that urges them to talk about the dangers of distracted driving with their teens. Develop, duplicate and distribute the letter and contract using the sample included as a guide.	Fact Sheet 9.6 Part II: Parent Involvement			

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of **Distracted Driving**

Fact Sheet 9.6 Part II Content Information

Sample Letter from School Driver Education Program

[DATE]

Dear Parent/Guardian,



Did you know that motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United **States?**

We all talk to our teens about the dangers of drunk driving and the importance of wearing seat belts. But there is another traffic safety issue we must make our teens aware of so they can stay safe behind the wheel: distracted driving.

In 2009 alone, nearly 5,500 people were killed and a half million more were injured in distracted driving crashes. Sadly, our youngest and most inexperienced drivers are often the most at risk. In fact, the under-20 age group has the highest proportion of distracted drivers involved in fatal crashes.

Today I'm writing to ask you to sit down and discuss this important issue with your teens and have them sign the attached Parent-Teen Driving Contract. It's a conversation that could save their life!

Distracted driving comes in many forms. It can include electronic distractions, like navigation systems and cell phones, or more conventional distractions, like interacting with passengers and eating.

Unfortunately, texting is the most dangerous of all distractions because it involves manual, visual, and cognitive distraction simultaneously. Sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for 4.6 seconds. At 55 mph, that's like driving the length of an entire football field, blindfolded.

Student safety is our number one priority at [SCHOOL], and we are committed to including appropriate driver education in our curriculum. However, we need the support of parents and family members to supplement this effort.

So, I'm asking you to join with me and encourage your teen to pay attention to the road at all times. Remind them that "One Text or Call Could Wreck It All."

If you need any additional information or have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

NAME TITLE (Driver Education Instructor) HIGH SCHOOL



Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving

Fact Sheet 9.6 Part II Content Information

Sample Parent-Teen Driving Contract



	WRECK: ITALL
1.	DISTRACTED DRIVING: Drivers under the age of 20 years old make up the greatest proportion of distracted drivers. RULE: PUT YOUR PHONE DOWN, BECAUSE ONE TEXT OR CALL COULD WRECK IT ALL!
	AGREEMENT:
	CONSEQUENCES:
2.	ALCOHOL: It is illegal in all states for drivers under the age of 21 to operate a vehicle with any detectable amount of alcohol in their system. RULE: ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOL!
	AGREEMENT:
	CONSEQUENCES:
3.	SEATBELTS: High fatality rates and low seat-belt-use rates among teens continue to reach distressing levels year after year. RULE: BUCKLE UP. EVERY TRIP. EVERY TIME.
	AGREEMENT:
	CONSEQUENCES:
4.	NIGHTTIME DRIVING: Most young drivers' nighttime fatal crashes occur between 9 p.m. and midnight. RULE: HAVE THE CAR IN THE DRIVEWAY BY [FILL IN TIME].
	AGREEMENT:
	CONSEQUENCES:

Spreading the Word on the Dangers of Distracted Driving

Fact Sheet 9.6 Part II Content Information

	Sample Parent-Teen Driving Contract				
5.	PASSENGERS: Research shows that the risk of a fatal crash increases in proportion to the number of teenage passengers. (2007 Research Report by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and State Farm Insurance Company) RULE: NO MORE THAN ONE PASSENGER IN THE CAR AT ALL TIMES (OR ZERO PASSENGERS IF THE STATE'S GDL LAW DOESN'T PERMIT ANY).				
	AGREEMENT:				
	CONSEQUENCES:				
6.	GRADUATED DRIVERS LICENSE: Graduated driver licensing (GDL) has been shown by numerous studies to be a highly effective method of reducing novice driver crash rates. (NHTSA July 2008 Teen Driver Crash Report to Congress) RULE: FOLLOW YOUR STATE'S GDL LAWS.				
	AGREEMENT:				
	CONSEQUENCES:				
TE	EN:				
PA	RENT/GUARDIAN:				
DA	TE:				



Unit Review and Test

Part 7

Lesson Content



Lesson Objective:

Student will evaluate their knowledge of the content presented in Unit 9 through review questions, key word matchup worksheet and unit test.

review questions, key word matchup worksneet and unit test.					
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources				
Review Questions					
> Review Questions	➤ Unit 9 Review Questions				
Ask review questions to summarize discussion on Unit 9.					

Unit 9 Review Questions



1. What are three effects of distracted driving? Answer: Slowed perception, delayed decision making and improper action

2. Why are drivers under the age of 20 most likely to be in a crash caused by distractions?

Answer: Lack of driving experience, lack of experience performing tasks which could cause distraction, increased risk taking, lack of familiarity with particular vehicles

3. Which specific distractions have been identified to be particularly hazardous to drivers under age 20?

Answer: Talking on a cell phone, texting, adjusting radio or CD, other occupants, outside person, object or event

4. Name the two types of distractions.

Answer: Physical and mental

5. Name five in-vehicle distractions.

Answer: See list in Fact Sheet 9.2 on page 9-27

6. Name three potential dangers of using cell phones while driving?

Answer: Diverting attention away from the driving task, looking away from the road and using one hand to drive in order to dial, effect on maintaining proper lane position, impact on ability to perceive potential problems, ability to make quick decisions, reduced situational awareness, ability to execute emergency maneuvers

7. Name two potential benefits of using cell phones in vehicles?

Answer: Ability to summon roadside assistance quickly in the event of a mechanical problem, ability to contact law enforcement quickly in the event of a personal or national security concern, ability to contact emergency services quickly in response to a crash or emergency or medical situations

8. How can texting impact driving?

Answer: Requires the driver to both look at the phone and manipulate the keypad with one's hands, involves manual, visual and cognitive distraction simultaneously, unable to complete search, evaluate and execute properly

9. What can you do to prevent distractions either before or while driving? Answer: See Fact Sheets 9.4 and 9.5 for list of ways to prevent distractions

Unit Review and Test	Part 7 continued Lesson Content
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources
Words to Know Review	
 Fact Sheet 9.7 Duplicate and distribute Fact Sheet 9.6. Use the definitions page as a resource for teaching and for the students as a resource and study guide. 	Fact Sheet 9.7: Unit 9 Words to Know Definitions Page
 Worksheet 9.7 Duplicate and distribute. Have students complete the worksheet. Review the answers. 	➤ Worksheet 9.7 and Answer Key: Unit 9 Words to Know Matchup

Unit 9 Words to Know Definitions Page

Fact Sheet 9.7 Content Information



Distraction – Results when a situation, event, object or person draws a driver's focus away from driving.

Inattention – Occurs when a driver's attention drifts away from driving without having been influenced by a situation, event or person.

Inside distraction – One that occurs inside the vehicle, i.e., other passengers, using a cell phone, adjusting controls, eating or drinking, etc.

Mental distraction – A type of distraction that takes the driver's mind away from the road, such as engaging in conversation with a passenger or thinking about something that happened during the day.

Outside distraction – One that occurs outside the vehicle, i.e., crash scenes, objects in roadway, police vehicle, billboards, etc.

Physical distraction – A type of distraction that causes a driver to take his or her hands off the wheel or eyes off the road, such as reaching for an object.

Rubbernecking – When drivers maintain eye contact with a crash scene, even beyond the point that they pass the scene, which can be quite dangerous, increasing the chance of experiencing a collision.

Text messaging – Common term for sending short text messages from cell phones.

Unit 9 Word	ls to Know Matchup			Worksheet 9.7
Name		Date		
	atch the clues on the left with the er in the blank to the left of the nur	words in the list on the right. Place the nber.		
1.	One that occurs inside the vehicle passengers, using a cell phone, accontrols, eating or drinking, etc.		A.	Distraction
2.	Common term for sending short from cell phones.	text messages	B.	Inattention
3.	One that occurs outside the vehic scenes, objects in roadway, polic billboards, etc.		C.	Inside distraction
4.	Results when a situation, event, or person draws a driver's focus aw driving.		D.	Mental distraction
5.	When drivers maintain eye conta scene, even beyond the point that scene.		E.	Outside distraction
6.	A type of distraction that takes the mind away from the road, such a conversation with a passenger or about something that happened d	s engaging in thinking	F.	Physical distraction
7.	Occurs when a driver's attention from driving without having been by a situation, event or person.	•	G.	Rubbernecking
8.	A type of distraction that causes a take his or her hands off the whee the road, such as reaching for an	el or eyes off	Н.	Text messaging

Unit 9 Words to Know Matchup

Worksheet 9.7 ANSWER KEY

ANSWER KEY

Directions: Match the clues on the left with the words in the list on the right.	Place the
matching letter in the blank to the left of the number.	

matching letter in the blank to the left of the number.				
C1.	One that occurs inside the vehicle, i.e., other passengers, using a cell phone, adjusting controls, eating or drinking, etc.	A.	Distraction	
H2.	Common term for sending short text messages from cell phones.	B.	Inattention	
E3.	One that occurs outside the vehicle, i.e., crash scenes, objects in roadway, police vehicle, billboards, etc.	C.	Inside distraction	
A4.	Results when a situation, event, object or person draws a driver's focus away from driving.	D.	Mental distraction	
G 5.	When drivers maintain eye contact with a crash scene, even beyond the point that they pass the scene.	E.	Outside distraction	
D6.	A type of distraction that takes the driver's mind away from the road, such as engaging in conversation with a passenger or thinking about something that happened during the day.	F.	Physical distraction	
B7.	Occurs when a driver's attention drifts away from driving without having been influenced by a situation, event or person.	G.	Rubbernecking	
F8.	A type of distraction that causes a driver to take his or her hands off the wheel or eyes off the road, such as reaching for an object.	Н.	Text messaging	

Unit Review and Test	Part 7 continued Lesson Content		
Lesson Content	Materials and Resources		
Unit Review and Test			
➤ Slide 9.32	➤ Slide 9.32: Unit Review		
Discuss what the students have learned by the end of this unit.	Unit Review In this unit, you learned: Definition, effects and nature of distracted driving Distractions inside the vehicle Distractions outside the vehicle Preventing distractions Addressing distractions while driving Spreading the word on the dangers of distracted driving		
> Reading Assignment	> Textbooks		
Assign students the reading material for the next unit. Students might begin reading after they have completed the Unit 9 Test.	Preferred Textbook: HOW to DRIVE Chapter 14 • Other Textbooks: - <u>Drive Right</u> : Chapters 6, 12 and 13 - <u>Responsible Driving</u> : Chapters 4, 5, 13, 14 and 16 - Other Textbook:		
> Unit 9 Test Duplicate and distribute the Unit 9 Test.	➤ Unit 9 Test, page 9-86		
Collect and grade the test.			
After returning tests to the students, review the answers and clarify any confusion.			

Unit 9 Review

Unit 9 Review

In this unit, you learned:

- The definition and effects of distracted driving and the nature of the distracted driving crash problem.
- Potential distractions that could occur inside the vehicle and their effects on the driving task.
- Potential distractions that could occur outside the vehicle and their effects on the driving task.
- How to prevent distractions before getting behind the wheel.
- How to address distractions while driving.
- Key words associated with the unit objectives.

Unit 9 Test

1.	What types of drivers are more susceptible to distractions while driving?
	A. Novice drivers
	B. Experienced drivers
	C. Senior drivers
	D. All of the above
2.	"Distracted driving" has been defined as:
	A. Anything that causes a driver to lose control of his or her vehicle
	B. Anything that takes a driver's attention away from driving
	C. Anything that causes a driver to brake unexpectedly
	D. Anything that causes a driver to "rubberneck"
3.	Costs associated with distracted driving related crashes could include:
	A. Property damage
	B. Fines associated with criminal charges
	C. Monies awarded because of civil lawsuits
	D. All of the above
4.	Which group of drivers is most likely to experience a crash caused by distracted
	driving?
	A. Drivers under age 20
	B. Drivers 20-26
	C. Drivers 40-49
	D. Drivers 70-75
5.	Young drivers are especially susceptible to distractions caused by:
	A. Smoking
	B. Eating
	C. Varying sunlight conditions
	D. Adjusting the audio system

The Effects of Distractions on Driving	Unit 9 Test Page 2
6. While driving, drivers should pay attention to all of the following the following of the following the followin	owing except :
A. Other vehicles	
B. Aircraft directly overhead	
C. Pedestrians	
D. Lane position	
7. Drivers who text are times more likely to get	t involved in a crash.
A. 2	
B. 5	
C. 14	
D. 23	
8. The responsibility for driving safely and remaining free of d	istractions rests with:
A. The state Department of Motor Vehicles	
B. Passengers	
C. The driver	
D. The vehicle's condition	
9. Vehicle equipment that could cause a driver to become distr	acted includes:
A. Voice activated controls	
B. Blind spot detectors	
C. Advanced navigation systems	
D. All of the above	
10. The best time to address distractions that can affect driving	; is:
A. Before driving begins	
B. While driving	
C. After driving ceases	
D. After receiving a citation for driving in an unsafe manne	er

The Effects of Distractions on Driving

Unit 9 Test ANSWER KEY

Unit 9 ANSWER KEY

1	A	6	В
2	В	7	D
3	D	8	С
4	A	9	D
5	D	10	A