Child Passenger Safety in the Air and Automobiles

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Children in Aircraft

- We want kids in their own CRs for a number of reasons:
  - CR used for ride to and from airport AND while at destination
  - Secure in turbulence
  - Comfortable on plane in familiar seat
  - Better behavior on the plane
Common Child Restraint Errors in Vehicles

- Selection
- Direction
- Location
- Installation
- Harness
Effective Interventions

- Reaching new parents at child birth classes
- Discharge policies at hospitals- still a wish
- Using child play groups; Mom’s groups
- Parents have to be aware that something is wrong before they pay attention
2009 Safe Kids Inspection
Station Numbers

Recorded average in quarterly reports

- 514 Station Locations
- 34,520 Hours of Service
- 2,847 Technicians
- 54,440 car seats checked
Mobile Fitting (Inspection) Station

Vans travel to rural and urban areas where no fixed stations exist.
Barriers to Proper CR Use:

*Take a Minute Concept*

- Distracted parents
  - Cell phone use at inspection
  - Unused instructions
- Wrong priorities
  - In a rush to get to gymboree, just want installation not education
  - Hyperthermia- 49 fatalities in 2010 with children left unattended in cars or entering an unattended vehicle to play
Safe Kids: Occupant Protection for Children in Vehicles

- Looks at kids of all ages
  - Infants, toddlers in car seats
  - Preschool, school age in booster seats
  - Seat belts or boosters for other ages
    - Cub Scout Patch Program kids 7-10
    - Safest Generation includes mechanisms to teach kids 11-12
    - Countdown2Drive targets information to parents and teens ages 13-14
Future Directions

- More inspection stations
- Continuing education for techs
- Continuing education for public, fitting station managers
- Continued effort to make vehicles and CRs more intuitive for consumers
- Better national data to measure success