

Causes and consequences of unsafe road use

WebQuest Description: This webquest should be completed within 3 lessons and aims to demonstrate to student's the various causes and physical, emotional and social consequences associated with unsafe road use.

Grade Level: 9-12

Curriculum: Health / PE

Keywords: health, pe, road safety, health issues, behaviour, consequences.

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Introduction

Road traffic accidents cause thousands of deaths and hundreds of thousands of disabilities each year. Worldwide, car accidents kill an estimated one million people each year. In most developed countries, young (under 25yr old) drivers have been shown to be by far the most likely to be involved in a car accident (Transport Accident Commission, 2010).

Statistics state the 6 most common causes for road traffic accidents are:

Driver Fatigue

Driving under the influence (alcohol and/or drugs)

Weather

Aggressive Driving

Speeding

Distracted driver (phone, passengers, changing cd/radio, eating etc.)

For this webquest your job is to assume the identity of a crash investigation officer and research the background of a possible cause and its associated consequences of a given scenario.

Tasks

Your task for this lesson is to study a given scenario looking at the causes and associated consequences of the situation. You will need to synthesize through, and analyse relevant information in order to demonstrate an understanding of road safety. You will also need to investigate major casual factors in road and traffic related injuries ie; human and environmental, and consider the consequences associated with unsafe road use behaviour.

Information is to be presented in a power point presentation to the class, and can include font/ scheme variation, images, sounds and short videos to concrete your central theme.

Your final presentation is to take 10 minutes, and must be clearly expressed.

Process

Watch the youtube video attached below and focus on the second car crash where the car collided with the trees.

The scenario is as follows; A group of three youths are on their way home from a night club when they lost control of the car. The car then slammed into trees. The driver and a passenger were killed, and the second passenger has been taken to hospital. The reason for the crash is unknown at the moment. The assumption is; driver fatigue, driving under the influence, weather, aggressive driving, speeding or distracted driving.

In groups of 2-3 you are to assume the identity of a crash investigation officer working with NSW police to help them identify the cause of the accident. If your name starts with the below mentioned letters, you believe the cause of the accident to be what is listed next to your letter group.

A, B, C, D – Driver Fatigue
E, F, G, H – Driving under the influence (alcohol and/or drugs)
I, J, K, L – Weather
M, N, O – Aggressive Driving
P, Q, R, S – Speeding
T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z – Distracted Driver (phone, passengers, changing cd/radio, eating etc.)

In your letter groups, if needed, divide into smaller groups of 2-3. You will need to research how this particular cause impacts on a driver in terms of hindrance in driver ability.

It is your job as a crash investigation officer to thoroughly research and:

Explain how your nominated cause impacts an individuals driving.

How and why it may have been the causing factor to the accident.

Conclusion

Understanding the causes and consequences of unsafe road use is vital for youth today. Now that you have taken the role of a crash investigation officer and analysed a situation deeper by looking at the various ways an accident can happen, and how it effects more than just the driver, making the decision to be more aware and alert on the roads will be easier.

As a driver you need to be aware that you are responsible for those in your vehicle, and there are always circumstances outside your control, so buckle up, calm down, don't speed, don't drink and drive, avoid distractions, account for the weather, and stop revive survive. Your actions are important!

Teacher Page

This webquest is designed for senior students and is recognised in strand 5 of the PD.H.PE syllabus.

It is recommended that students have completed outcome 4.6 - A student describes that nature of health and analyses how health issues may impact on young people; the road safety topic from stage 4.

This webquest should be completed within 3 lessons depending on class size. Class grouping structure has been listed in the process tab. These webquest lesson recommendations can be broken down into a lesson structures as follows:

Lesson 1 - Research and analyse relevant information

Lesson 2 - Generate Microsoft Powerpoint presentation

Lesson 3 - Students present information to classmates

It is designed for students to identify and evaluate the broad range of factors that have the potential to impact on the health decisions and behaviours of young people. When completing this webquest, over the necessary lessons, students apply their understanding of these influencing factors as they continue to practice strategies to minimise harm to themselves and others in a relevant and meaningful context.

The use of ICT resources allows students to examine how health knowledge has changes and propose strategies to deal with future changes. The students are able to specifically identify common sources of health information and services used by young people, and analyse the appropriateness of these.

The following health issues should not be taught as an isolated subject, and should be integrated with health and wellbeing to allow for a broader holistic understanding from the students. Links between the stage 4 and stage 5 topic of road safety should be reinforced so that students understand the interrelationship of these areas.

Outcome 5.6 - A Student analyses attitudes, behaviours and consequences related to health issues affecting young people.
Students learn about - Road Safety

Responsible driver and passenger behaviour

Factors influencing road use behaviour

Major causal factors in road and traffic related injuries

Consequences of unsafe road use behaviour

Skills and attitudes that support safe road behaviour

Students learn to -

Propose and present strategies designed to promote safe road use attitudes and behaviours

Use simulation (ICT) software to make health decisions and solve problems relevant to young people

Presentations will be assessed as per assessment guidelines outlined throughout the rubric attached in the evaluation section.

References:

Transport Accident Commission (2010). Retrieved 28th April, 2010 from the World Wide Web:

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Standards

Credits

Other