

# LESSON SLAM!

## Driver education ideas from teachers for teachers

### RESEARCH/DATA

**It Could Happen to You:** Play a segment of the local news from the previous evening that covers a story involving motor vehicles. Talk about what went wrong, what could have been done differently, etc.

**News Report**—Keep track of the Interstate # of fatalities on MT highways. Students each assigned a date to scan headlines to report on driving mishaps. Verbal report to the class.

**Crash Log:** Record data of crash articles. Now take the data and use it on the Impact Teen Drivers probability wheel to find %.

**Anti-DUI:** After reviewing drunk driving module in Teen Driver Curriculum have students talk to parents to make a plan in case they are ever in that situation. Report back to the class.

**Padlet:** Steffani Grogan's Driver Education instructor material can be downloaded at this site:  
<https://padlet.com/techiemom08/Grogdrived>.

### REVIEW GAMES

**Flash Cards with Learner License Questions:** Write questions and answers on cards. Divide students into pairs. Have students go through cards. Right answers go in one pile and wrong answers go into another. Keep reviewing through the wrong answer pile until all answers correct.

**Team Study for Learner License Knowledge Exam:** Students create questions from driver manual. Create a bracket for teams. Each team gets 3 minutes to rapid fire question/answer and keep scores. Double elimination style.

**Smack Down Tournament:** Answers on board and students try to smack the answer when the question is read before other teams. Flyswatters can be used for smack-down.

**Salad Bowl Game (Charades):** Students form in groups of three or four. Each student must write a driver ed term on a piece of paper (something all would know) and drop in a bowl. Groups compete against each other. Whoever gets through the bowl of words first by acting them out wins. Switch bowls and play again.

**Extra Credit:** Why are potholes called "POT" holes and not kettle holes, pan holes, etc.

**Extra Credit Scrapbook:** Summarize 20 articles on distractions: visual, auditory, cognitive, manual. Students present to class on most effective ways to prevent distractions.

### CLASSROOM LESSONS

**Final Project** due at end of class: Create song (4 verses), posters, movies, themed cakes.

**Brainstorm Mnemonics:** Students make up own Acronyms (or mnemonics) for a skill: Ex. Leaving the curb from parallel: **BSSSL** (**B**ack up, **S**mart car turn 1 revolution to left, **S**hift to D, **S**ignal, **L**ook over left shoulder).

**Dumb and Dumber Things BTW:** With one week left in class, ask students to write down the dumbest thing they have done behind the wheel. Allow students to remain anonymous.

**Distance understanding:** After going over distances in the manual, go outside with 300-foot tape measure and measure actual distances.

**Following Distance:** Students stand in line 1 arm length apart. The leader walks and stops randomly while other students try to stop and not run into person in front of them. Repeat with 2 large steps between students in line.

**How to Handle Stress Simulation:** Teacher lectures to students about being lazy and not getting work done. Hand out a chapter quiz on topic that hasn't been covered yet. Time how long student has to finish quiz all the while making distracting noise, comments and tapping pen. Correct quiz: most students haven't finished. Students usually go crazy verbally, nervous, mad at teacher. **Lesson learned:** How did student handle and react to stress?

**Situational Awareness:** Improve ability to focus on certain things in certain situations and learn how being distracted detracts from each situation. People are sometimes so caught up in their own world, they do not realize what is going on around them. Watch video: "You Can't Even Text and Walk" at  
[https://youtu.be/k\\_7KapnS2nk](https://youtu.be/k_7KapnS2nk).

## IMPAIRED AND DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS

**Myth Buster—Alcohol Impairment:** Use 3 different mouthwash brands to demonstrate the BAC on the school breathalyzer. Compare number & type of alcohol beverages to % alcohol in mouthwash.

**Made Ya Look:** In BTW simulation, teacher tells student driver to look at a deer/elk etc. in the field to see if they pull the practice wheel when/if they look. Discuss consequences of taking eyes off the road.

**Answer Cell Phone While Driving Simulation:** During class, teacher has a helper call cell and all students' eyes move to the sound which show taking eyes off the road.

**Magnetic Erasers (Impaired Driving):** Students write down five important people to them on a sticky note, which is attached to one of the magnetic eraser cars. Tell students that they choose to drive impaired, so knock 2 cars with names off board. Because of choices, the loved ones are gone and the driver must live with the consequences.

## BEHIND-THE-WHEEL

**Student Feedback:** Worksheet that is based on the CDP Road Test score sheet is given to students to give other drivers feedback.

**In-Car Observation Video:** Take 15 minutes footage of student driving. The student watches video and self-evaluates on an In-Car Observation sheet (similar to TEP). See <https://sites.google.com/site/mrmasonschswebpage/home/driver-education>.

**BTW Backseat Observer Activities:** 10 things you didn't know today, 10 potential hazards on & off road, Tally Distractions, Tally freeway signs, evaluate driver ed teacher in car, evaluate student driver using the instructors sheet, count white crosses on highway & Interstate drives.

**BTW-Road Bingo:** Road signs, people on cell phones, failure to signal, etc.

**Street View:** Take students to actual location with a list of items to observe and record. Take data back to classroom to discuss. This could be a make-up assignment if student misses a drive or class.

**Golf Cart:** Place students in golf cart to maneuver around the parking lot to evaluate students' experience behind the wheel.

**Discovering our HTS :** On long drives, students get list of signs and other items to identify while on the road. They work together—the driver identifies and the passengers are scribes. Ex. How many adopt a highway sign?

**Backing:** Steering does not matter forward or backward; always turn which direction you want to go. In car, back up with only looking over shoulder/out window. Back up only using mirrors. Back up using both which should make it easier.

**End of Drive:** Share one positive and one negative for each driver.

**Improvised Skid:** (Make sure there are no LOS issues, level, gravel, low speed & no curves.) Instructor grabs the wheel and simulates evasive steering maneuver to put car in slight skid. Evaluate that students pull feet off pedals and steer toward target.

**Vehicle Scavenger Hunt:** Hunt safety/function items that should be in a vehicle. Students need to find where items located in different models of vehicles. Ex: ESC, Hazard light switch, fuse panel, jack storage.

**Reference Points:** To teach reference points, drive over a target like a 2x4 or a pop can.

## TECHNOLOGY, WEBSITES & VIDEOS

**Watch** "It's Fine Line between Living and Dying." (16:45) at <https://youtu.be/rYhu5Z1r16E>. Check NHTSA for updated crash statistics.

**Kahoot.com/kahootit.com:** Quiz game with cell phones. Use to discuss statistics, signs, study LL, and to give Pre/Post-test for each lesson. Students can search Kahoot for quizzes to study for LL in small groups.

**Share a Video:** Students find a traffic safety video on YouTube to share with the class.

**Tracking for GDL:** Teen Driving Log. iPhone app for supervised driving. <https://www.teendrivinglog.com>.

**Carfax:** Access sample reports online. Create worksheet to guide the students through the report emphasizing areas of concern. Teach the students what to look for when buying a used car.

Thank you for sharing your traffic education classroom and in-vehicle lesson activities at MTEA's Lesson Slam at the 2018 Montana Traffic Education Conference.

