

# OVERVIEW OF SAFETY TRAINING PACKAGE

## Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to review this material. Statistics tell us that the largest percentage of ride-related accidents are caused by the patron. Manufacturers expend a huge amount of energy, time and money through writing new industry standards for Amusement Rides through ASTM and teaching various Safety, Maintenance and Inspection Seminars throughout the US and Canada. Responsible Park, FEC and Carnival Ride Owners and operators are doing the same thing in addition to training their own operators, inspectors and mechanics.

What are we doing to improve the patron statistics? Not enough.

The young patron needs to be educated about ride safety. Why children? Because they are still young enough to successfully be taught safe behavior without the "NO FEAR" and "Extreme Sport" mentality muting the message. Junior High and High School students tend to think they already know more than we do and because of their perceived invincibility. Just ask them!

Children are taught Fire Safety, Don't Talk to Strangers, Home Safety, Street Crossing Safety, Tornado or Hurricane Safety, Bike Safety, etc., so why not teach them Ride Safety so they can have a greater chance to experience Amusement Rides and Devices Safely?

Patrons typically have the misconception that rides are safe no matter what behavior they choose to practice. The Laws of Physics still apply in the exciting "Land of Make Believe" the industry has created where Amusement Rides exist. Whether through misbehavior, ignoring signage or misunderstanding the nature of amusement rides, patrons don't take the "Rules of the Ride" seriously. Children need to learn safe riding habits in a school/learning setting to process the concept of "consequences of our own actions" to affect their future actions.

The *Teaching Ride Safety to Children* program is dedicated to every person who has ever been hurt on an amusement ride and to every person who is active in making amusement rides/riding safer. Thank you for participating in it!

Sincerely,  
Patty Sullivan, President/CEO, Eli Bridge Company

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- \*Not on this CD, but additional materials needed are a Ride Video Safety for children like the OABA "Safe Fun at the Carnival" video.*

## How to use the materials

1. Read *OVERVIEW OF SAFETY TRAINING PACKAGE* to acquaint yourself with what is included in this package and how it is intended to be used.
2. Use the PowerPoint program "*Ride Safety Training Primary Schools Presentation Genl Audiences*" for informational presentations for interested general audiences. This will give your participants the background of what this Safety Program is trying to accomplish and how to go about planning and scheduling the presentations to children.
3. Use the PowerPoint program "*Safety In the Community Presentation for Seminars*" for presentations to Seminars where evaluations on each class are required. This will give your seminar participants the background of what this Safety Program is trying to accomplish and how to go about planning and scheduling the presentations to children.
4. Use the Instructor Outline for your presentation to children's groups. It gives you specific topics and activities to discuss and do as well as suggested timelines for each.
5. Use the "*Safety Tips for SafetyEd CD*" to read ahead of time and familiarize yourself with the information to use with not only children but parents groups so everyone in the family is "onboard" for maximum enjoyment of their park or carnival experience.
6. Use the "*Saferparks 5 Steps to Safer Riding*" to read ahead of time and familiarize yourself with the information and relate to the children during the presentation. Bring these topics into the discussion and use them for your "Q and A" portion of the class.
7. Use these "titled pages" to hand out to 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders to draw and color what they learned during your presentation. This will help to more permanently imprint the concepts in their memories and hopefully shape safe behavior when riding rides.
8. Use these "coloring pages" to hand out to preschoolers through 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to draw and color what they learned during your presentation. This will help to more permanently imprint the concepts in their memories and hopefully shape safe behavior when riding rides. Ideally they will become "refrigerator art" and then be used as a "promotional offer" for a savings when going to the park, fair or festival. If the children save it and use it at "point of purchase" when being admitted, the messages will remind them of the safety rules they learned in the school setting.

In addition to the above, you will need a Ride Safety Video/DVD to play during your presentation. (OABA has a video available for only \$10 plus S&H titled *Safe Fun at the Carnival*. Go to [www.OABA.com](http://www.OABA.com) to order.) This brings the additional color, lights, motion and excitement to your presentation, which will keep the children interested and motivated to pay attention to the entire message.

Most of all, remember to have fun with this program! Safety is a serious subject and must be treated that way, but children's memories will "sponge up" more information in the serious message if you keep the presentation fun.