Car Seat Play
(Dramatic Play)

Bring in a couple car seats and place them in your dramatic play area. Place them with a couple chairs, some stuffed animals or dolls, and some keys or other car related props to play with. Let the kids practice buckling and un-buckling the animals or dolls in the car seats, while pretending to set off on a variety of adventures in their ‘vehicles’. Use the time to talk about care safety and how important it is that they be buckled up and in a car seat if they have one.

Life Experience
(Group)

Just about everyone has had experience with a car accident, either first hand, or through the stories of a friend or loved one. Sit down and share these experiences with your kids. It can be a good tool in helping children to realize the danger that car accidents happen all the time, and the importance of wearing their seatbelts.

Fun with Reflectors
(Science)

Assemble a couple of flashlights, some bike reflectors, and a large, thick blanket. Drape the blanket, (or blankets) over one of your tables so that it creates a dark room underneath. Have the children experiment with the flashlights and the reflectors underneath the table.

Seatbelt Bribery
(Special)

Not very often do we suggest anything of the sort in the classroom, but picking a week to offer rewards for wearing seatbelts can be a great way to encourage awareness of seatbelt wearing among the kids. Pick a week, and let the kids know that during that week, if they come into the classroom in the morning and tell you that they wore their seatbelt and sat nicely in a car seat, if they had one) they get a small reward, such as a sticker or piece of candy.