

Safe Ride?



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School buses are still the safest way for kids to ride to school.

As the wheels on the bus go round and round, many kids are being bounced around. A study showed that about 17,000 accidents occur on school buses each year. Injuries range from cuts to broken bones.

Researchers report that crashes aren't causing all of those injuries. Kids are sometimes thrown around when buses stop and turn. Some people say those injuries could be prevented if school buses had seat belts.

Traffic safety experts say seat belts would not **reduce**, or lower, injuries. Not all injuries occur when kids are in their seats. Nearly one-quarter of injuries occur when kids are getting on and off the buses.

School buses are still the safest way for kids to ride to school, says the National School Transportation Association. The number of kids injured is only a small fraction of the nearly 24 million kids who travel on school buses each year.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Injuries on school buses are caused by

- A. crashes.
- B. kids being thrown around when the bus stops.
- C. accidents while kids get on and off the bus.
- D. all of the above.

2. Some think that seat belts should be on school buses, because

- A. they would prevent crashes.
- B. they would teach children to be safe.
- C. they would remind bus drivers to drive slowly.
- D. they would keep children in their seats.

3. There are about _____ accidents on school buses each year.

- A. 24 million
- B. 17 thousand
- C. 24 thousand
- D. 17 million

4. The National School Transportation Association recommends school buses because

- A. school buses are the fastest way to get to school.
- B. school buses are the least expensive way to get to school.
- C. school buses are the safest way to get to school.
- D. all of the above.

5. Do you think there should be seat belts on school buses? Support your opinion.
