

Overview

At the Yukon Compensation Health and Safety Board, we believe that learning about safety at home, at school and at play gives children a foundation for preventing injuries throughout their lives. The Safety Build program offers students a chance to share what they do to keep healthy and safe. Students build LEGO models to show potentially dangerous situations at school, at home or outdoors, tell what they can do to keep safe, and explain why making healthy and safe choices is important for everyone.

This free Safety Build kit—complete with lesson ideas, story template and a set of LEGO bricks for each student—is designed to help students have fun while learning about health and safety. We also want to support teachers to use these materials for educational purposes and help improve the Yukon’s culture of safety for years to come.

Teachers can share students’ Safety Build stories by posting pictures of builds and have a chance at winning great prizes. Just go to wcb.yk.ca/safetybuild to enter!

How can teachers use Safety Build kits in the classroom?

Safety Build lessons follow a simple structure to help students identify dangers, figure out what they can do to keep safe, and share why it’s important to take those steps. This can be done with the whole class, small groups or individual students.

1 Teachers choose an activity that would be useful for their students. Activities can vary depending on the season, student interests, special events or upcoming outings. Some ideas could be:

- playing outside at recess
- driving with parents or on the bus
- cooking
- staying home alone
- dressing for cold/hot weather
- playing team sports
- swimming in pools/lakes
- boating
- walking home
- biking

2 Teachers introduce the activity using a personal story, a book or pictures and ask students to remember a time when they were doing that activity.

3 Teachers ask students what could be dangerous and steps to keep safe.

4 Students build models of themselves doing that activity, showing the dangers and steps they take to keep safe.



5 As students are building, teachers ask why it's important to make safe choices during that activity.

6 Teachers copy the Safety Build story template, included in this kit, and ask students to draw and write their stories to show what they know.

This can be adapted for early writers by using sentence starters like:

- The dangers are...
- To keep safe, I...
- It's important to make safe choices because...

Extending the learning

Keeping healthy and safe means knowing how to protect our bodies, but it's also about taking care of our feelings. As an extension, students can do Safety Builds on what they know about taking care of their own and others' feelings. Consider doing a Safety Build on a topic like:

- politeness
- kindness
- respect
- honesty
- fairness
- sharing
- apologizing
- forgiving

Physical and Health Education—Big Ideas

Safety Build activities can help students demonstrate to their teachers what they've learned about keeping healthy and safe.

- Knowing about our bodies and making healthy choices helps us look after ourselves (Grade 1)
- Adopting healthy personal practices and safety strategies protects ourselves and others (Grades 2 and 3)
- Personal choices and social and emotional factors influence our health and well-being (Grade 4)
- Personal choices and social and environmental factors influence our health and well-being (Grade 5)

Source: https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/curriculum/continuous-views/en_phe_k-10_big_ideas.pdf

