



Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

LESSON 7.3

VEHICLE BLIND SPOT SIMULATOR

This activity will help you understand what vehicle blind spots are and where they exist by exploring how mirrors work and where they fall short. You will need painter's tape and three handheld mirrors.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Get into groups of five.
2. Use painter's tape to mark a rectangle on the floor as your "car." Place a chair where the driver's seat would be.
3. One student will sit in the chair as the driver.
4. Two students will hold side mirrors on either side of the car. Use furniture if needed to help hold them steady.
5. One student will act as the rearview mirror, holding the mirror just in front of the driver in the center of the "car" where the rearview mirror would hang.
6. The driver may "adjust" mirrors by asking students to move them until they can see clearly.
7. The fifth student will move a small object around the "vehicle."
8. The driver observes whether they can see the object directly or in any mirror.
9. If the object disappears from view, that location is a blind spot.
10. Rotate roles until everyone has been the driver, then answer the questions below.

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW

1. Where were the blind spots located around the “driver?”

2. What causes blind spots in vehicles?

3. As a future driver, how could you check these areas in a real car?

4. Why are blind spots dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists?

5. As a pedestrian or cyclist, how can you protect yourself around vehicles?