

Distracted Driving

Teens in the Driver Seat



Why Are We Here?

Car crashes are the **leading cause of death** for teens and young adults.

An average of
2,700
teens die and thousands are injured
in car crashes every year.



Equivalent to a **school bus full** of teens
crashing every week for a year.

The Fundamental Reason

Driver inexperience is the **#1** cause
for teen crashes.

Top Teen Driving Risks



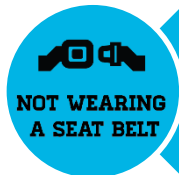
Distractions



Nighttime/Drowsy Driving



Speeding/Racing



Low Seat Belt Use



Impaired Driving

The Problem

1 out of every 10
teens involved in a
fatal crash were
distracted at the time
of the crash.

DISTRACTED DRIVING IS LIKE DRIVING



BLINDFOLDED

PAY ATTENTION TO THE ROAD!



Wrights Story



► Listen to the Wright Brother's Story and do the following:

1. When you hear the word "wright" move to your **RIGHT**.
2. When you hear the word "left" move to your **LEFT**.

STORY: "Life with the Wright Family"

One day the Wright family decided to take a vacation. The first thing they had to decide was who would be left at home since there was not enough room in the Wright family car for all of them. Mr. Wright decided that Aunt Linda Wright would be the one left at home. Of course this made Aunt Linda Wright so mad that she left the house immediately yelling "It will be a right cold day before I return".

The Wright family now bundled up the children, Tommy Wright, Susan Wright, Timmy Wright and Shelly Wright and got in the car and left. Unfortunately, as they turned out of the driveway someone had left a trash can in the street so they had to turn right around and stop the car. They told Tommy Wright to get out of the car and move the trash can so they could get going. Tommy took so long that they almost left him in the street. Once the Wright family got on the road, Mother Wright wondered if she had left the stove on. Father Wright told her not to worry he had checked the stove and she had not left it on. As they turned right at the corner, everyone started to think about other things that they might have left undone.

No need to worry now, they were off on a right fine vacation. When they arrived at the gas station, Father Wright put gas in the car and then discovered that he had left his wallet at home. So Timmy Wright ran home to get the money that was left behind.

After Timmy had left, Susan Wright started to feel sick. She left the car saying that she had to throw up. This of course got Mother Wright's attention and she left the car in a hurry. Shelly Wright wanted to watch Susan get sick, so she left the car too. Father Wright was left with Tommy Wright who was playing a game in the backseat.

With all of this going on Father Wright decided that this was not the right time to take a vacation, so he gathered up all of the family and left the gas station as quickly as he could. When he arrived home, he turned left into the driveway and said "I wish the Wright family had never left the house today! Right?"

Discussions

- ▶ Was that difficult?
- ▶ Can you remember who was left behind?
- ▶ Which person got sick and needed to get out of the car?
- ▶ Why is it difficult to remember?

LESSON: Our brain cannot truly multitask!

Types of Distractions



Visual

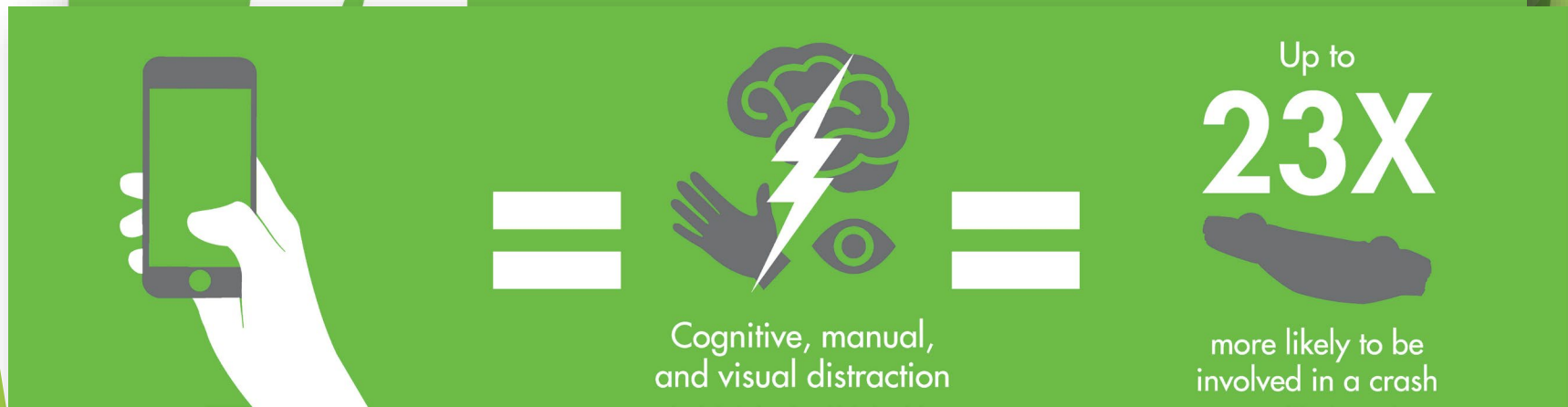
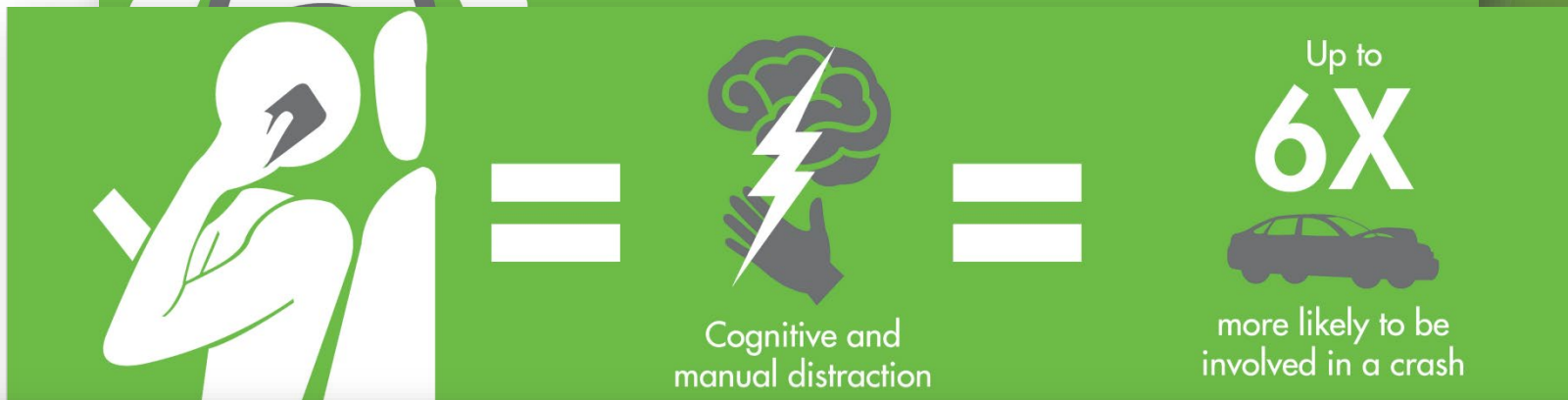
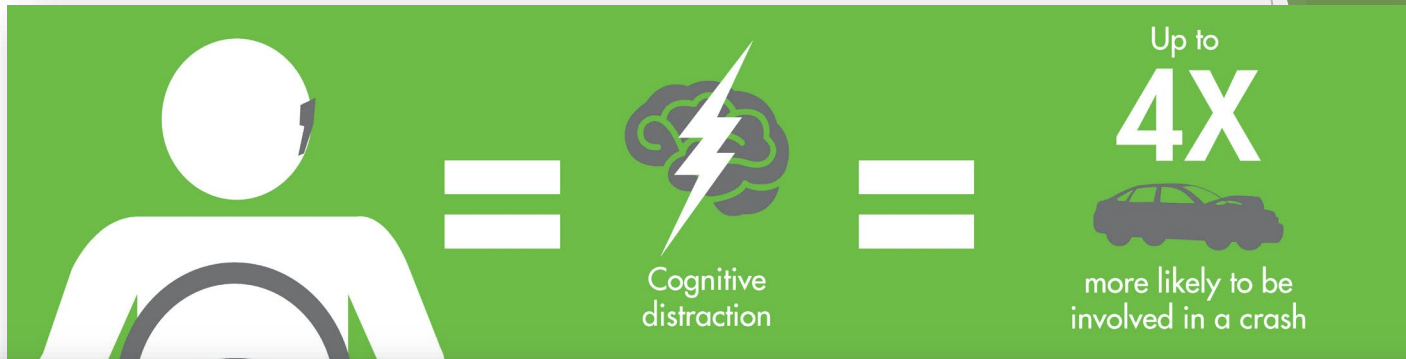


Manual



Cognitive

Crash Risk and Cell Phone Use



Teens and Teens: A Deadly Combination



TEENS ARE **3 TO 5** TIMES
LIKELIER TO CRASH
WHEN RIDING WITH
THEIR FRIENDS. IIHS

Know your states Graduated Drivers Licensing Laws

- ▶ Cell phone use restrictions
- ▶ Number of passenger restrictions
- ▶ Visit your local department of transportation to get all the facts.

CALL TO ACTION



- ▶ **Peer-to-peer WORKS**
- ▶ **Share awareness of all teen driving risks with your peers**
- ▶ **Decreases crashes involving teens**
- ▶ **Guidance provided by a Teen Advisory Board**
- ▶ **Science provided by Texas Transportation Institute**

Wrap Up Questions

1. What is the fundamental reason teen drivers are at a high risk for a crash?
 - a) Distractions
 - b) Driver Inexperience
 - c) Impaired Driving

The Fundamental Reason

Driver inexperience is the **#1** cause
for teen crashes.



What type of distraction is a cell phone?

- a) Manual
- b) Visual
- c) Cognitive
- d) Can be all three

Can be all 3. Texting involves all 3 types of distractions and can be the most dangerous.

True or False: Riding with teen peer passengers can increase your risk of being involved in a crash?

a) True

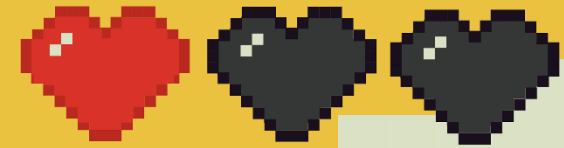
b) False

TRUE. Riding with your friends can increase your crash risk. Always try to limit your passenger to 1 person when not driving with an adult.

THANK YOU!

Visit www.t-driver.com to learn more about distracted driving and how you can be safe on the road!

YOU HAVE 3 LIVES IN A VIDEO GAME



BUT ONLY ONE LIFE ON THE ROAD