

“If you can’t read the odometer of the car in front of you at a stoplight, you’re too far back.”

– Henning Pape, taxi driver, Germany

Source: *Rules of Thumb*



Since the introduction of the automobile, about 3 million Americans – equivalent to the population of a city the size of Chicago – have died in auto accidents.



The middle-aged man shuffled along, bent over at the waist, as his wife helped him into the doctor’s waiting room. The doctor’s nurse viewed the scene with sympathy. “Arthritis with complications?” she asked.

The wife shook her head. “Do-it-yourself,” she explained, “with concrete blocks.”



“We recommend that he take a basic CPR course, but it’s hard to argue with success.”

– Keith Luri, commenting about a man who used a toilet plunger on his father’s chest to save his life during a heart attack.

FRUITS OF RESEARCH

A study of 12,000 people by University of North Carolina researchers revealed that people who drink lots of beer have large bellies, but most people who drink lots of wine don't.

University of New Hampshire researchers found that one in ten adolescent boys has been kicked in the testicles by another kid – 40 percent of the time by girls. Boys who wear glasses or have other physical limitations are three times more likely to be kicked. A year after the kicking, one-fourth of the victims still suffered depression from the incident.

– *Journal of the American Medical Association*

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) once spent 4.2 million dollars “to find out that untuned engines spread more pollution than tuned engines.”



Three million people in the United States have impaired backs or limbs as a result of an accidental fall.



“Here I lie and no wonder
I’m dead.

For the wheel of a wagon went
over my head.”

– *On a gravestone in Prendergast churchyard
Dyfed, England*



Safety Meeting/ Promotion Idea

PICK A FINGER, ANY FINGER

Contributed by Lynn Marie from Carpenter County, Florida

Recently I held a safety meeting with the usual video and short talk, but I wanted it to be effective as opposed to just compliant.

I gave everyone two pieces of paper (any kind, but usually typing/computer paper), scissors and a pen. Then I had them draw around their left hand on one sheet and around their right hand on the other.

This alone was a good ice breaker (we have not done this since kindergarten). Then I showed a video on lacerations. After the video, we talked about what we saw and other people we knew who had severe lacerations resulting in hand/ finger loss. Then I said, "Before you go, I need each of you to cut one finger off each of your hands. Then you may leave." Everyone looked at me incredulously. I smiled and waited while a couple of people just whacked off their fingers to get out. Others had to ponder which ones they could do without, and there were two who flat out refused to cut their fingers off (this was the correct answer, of course).

At the end of the session, I spoke to those who cut off their paper fingers and let them know I didn't want to see them using those same real fingers for the rest of the day. It was a VERY interesting and not-soon-forgotten safety meeting!

