



Scenario 2: Riding Toy Safety

Name: _____

Date: _____

Riding toys are responsible for the majority of toy-related injuries among children ages 14 and under.³ Most injuries occur when a child falls from the toy, typically injuring the child's head and face area. Riding toys provide a fun means to expend energy and get physical activity when these safety precautions are followed.

1. Ensure riding toys age-appropriate for the child—not too large or too advanced.²
2. Ensure riding toys are safe—check for sharp edges, unstable joints, or other potential hazards.²
3. Use riding toys only on hard, flat surfaces.¹
4. Keep riding paths clear of obstacles.²
5. Keep riding toys away from areas with inclines and/or declines (i.e., hills, sloped driveways).¹
6. Avoid pushing a riding toy while the child is riding it—the child's legs and feet can only move so fast.¹
7. Keep riding toys away from swimming pools, ponds, or any open water.¹
8. Never leave the child on a riding toy unsupervised.^{1,2}
9. Keep riding toys away from traffic, since visibility is limited to automobile drivers.¹
10. Never allow a child with loose clothing to use a riding toy—loose clothing could catch in pedals.¹
11. Always adhere to the manufacturer's weight requirements to ensure the toy will support the child.²
12. Teach the child proper hand signals for turning and stopping.¹



¹ QualityPedalCars.com. (n.d.). *Safety tips for users of pedal cars, pedal planes, and other ride on toys*. Retrieved from http://www.qualitypedalcars.com/pedal_toy_safety_tips

² RidingToys.com. (n.d.). *Safety tips for riding toys*. Retrieved from <http://www.ridingtoys.com/pedal-toys/safetytipsforridingtoysarticle.cfm>

³ Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian. (n.d.). *Toy safety: Injury statistics and incidence rates*. Retrieved from <http://www.childrenshosp.org/mschony/P03000.html>