



Juvenile Protection & Safety: Program Ideas

- **Bicycle Safety:** Illinois PTA has partnered with the [Ride Illinois](#) to provide the [Illinois Bike Safety Quiz Challenge](#), a Program to Go for Illinois PTAs. The program provides online quizzes on bicycle safety for child and adult bicyclists and adult motorists. The quiz can be done at home, as part of a PTA event such as a bike rodeo, or as a class activity in the school computer lab as the quiz meets Illinois Learning Standard 19C. Get your families ready to bike safely, prepare for Bike to School Day, or make sure your new teen drivers know about sharing the road with bicyclists—take the [Illinois Bike Safety Quiz Challenge](#)!
- **Bullying/Cyber Bullying:** Bullying has long been a cruel act done face to face with one's victim, be it in school, on the playground, or even away from school at places like a local park. Now in a world of technology, bullying has entered our homes. Unlike physical bullying, where walking away can allow a bullying victim to get away from their tormentor, technology allows the bully continuous access to their victim. 42% of children report that they have been cyber bullied, and 32% have been threatened online. Go to kids.gov [online safety page](#) and National PTA [Connect for Respect program](#) to find out what more you can do to prevent Bullying/Cyber Bullying and to create a safer environment for our children. Connect for Respect materials are also included on the program disks in the Illinois PTA Local Unit Packet.
- **Internet/Online Safety:** Texting Apps, Chat Line Apps and Social Media have taken the world by storm. It can be a wonderful source of information and communication; however, to a sexual predator, it's a parent's worst nightmare. Our children are being exposed to such acts of photo pornography and sexting not just through laptops or PCs, but through mobile devices. Internet Safety is a key way to prevent such offenses from happening. Learn more at <http://www.internetsafety101.org/>.
- **Children's Mental Health Awareness:** According to the National Alliance on Mental Health, one in ten youth have severe enough mental health problems to impair how they function at home, school, or in the community. The New Freedom Commission on Mental Health found that one in five children has a diagnosable mental health disorder. The Illinois Children's Mental Health Public Awareness Campaign was created through the efforts of the [Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership](#), the Illinois PTA, and several other organizations that came together with hope unifying efforts to reach across the state and make an impact in creating awareness of children's mental health issues. Help promote awareness by sponsoring special events to help. You can find additional information and resources at the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) website.



- **Poison Control Awareness:** Children across the state are exposed to certain types of poison daily. Research has shown that there are ways to prevent our children from being physical and fatal victims of poisonous products. PTA is preparing to partner with the Illinois Poison Center to help in giving helpful information about poison control. Go to illinoispoisoncenter.org to find out what you can do to bring awareness.
- **Sports Safety:** Too often our children are put in tough situations in order to compromise their safety. We need to bring to light the importance of certain safety issues revolving around safety in sports. From concussion awareness to exercise tips to equipment use...there's a need of awareness. Visit safekids.org to find out more.
- **Teen Driving:** A parents ultimate worry...their 16 year old being behind the wheel of an automobile. There are important safety tip teens need to be aware of while driving - being aware of surroundings, driving the speed limit, driving under the influence and our all time favorite, texting while driving are some major issues among teen drivers. Visit teensafedriver.com to get an idea of helping to create safe drivers among our teens.
- **School Bus Safety:** School Bus Safety is a key element of our children's lives. Not every accident involving school buses are done behind or in front of the steering wheel. There have been incidents where choking or bodily injuries have occurred due to careless acts on the bus. Along with motorist not knowing that stopping for a school bus stop sign is the law. Visit National Highway Traffic Safety Administration www.nhtsa.gov and Safe Kids Worldwide www.safekids.org to learn more about creating a safe school bus environment for our children.
- **Juvenile Justice:** Unfortunately, our juvenile detention centers population is increasing rapidly. Our mission is to help decrease the population and help maintain it at a minimum. Also, keep constant focus on the juvenile laws as to some may be unfair due to the nature of crime and/or age. Learn more about Juvenile Justice at Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice at www.illinois.gov and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention at www.ojjdp.gov.

These items can be used to as Safety Fair subjects as well as unit programs.



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