

**Children's Health Minute**

**Air Dates: Week of February 12, 2007**

**"Child Passenger Safety Week"**

**Dr. Hellerstedt:** You may be putting your child at risk every time you drive.

Hi, I'm Dr. John Hellerstedt with the Children's Health Minute -- connecting families with Children's Medicaid and CHIP.

This week is Child Passenger Safety Week, and experts want to remind parents about the "safety gap." That's when kids have outgrown their child safety seats but are still not big enough to use seat belts.

The problem occurs when the seat belt rides across the child's neck. That's where a booster seat comes in. It lifts the child "up" so the seat belt can work properly. Booster seats are recommended for all children up to 80 pounds or less than four foot nine inches. Generally that means kids from 4 to 10 years old.

Make sure you follow the manufacturer's instructions for the proper positioning and use of your booster seat.

**Announcer:** Keep your kids healthy. Call toll-free 1-877-KIDS NOW to apply or when it's time to renew your CHIP or Children's Medicaid. Six months of coverage for all your children costs just 50 dollars or less, but most families pay little or nothing. That's 1-877-KIDS NOW.