



# Car Rides

Children who are DeafBlind learn best when they can use many senses, especially touch. Based on a child's unique hearing and vision loss, they may not always see or hear what is happening around them and may miss important clues that other children notice.

**P**repare your child by giving cues for what you are going to do **before** you do it.

Using tactile or sensory cues and a slow pace helps children feel safe and calm. When caregivers know what to watch for and are responsive to children's cues they build a trusting relationship. When children know what to expect, they can relax, communicate, and participate more fully in their daily routines.



## WHAT TO SAY AND/OR SIGN

"We are going to Grandma's."

"Time to go in the car."

"Time to leave the house, open the door."

"Here is the car. Get inside."

"Get in your car seat. Up, up, up."

"Buckle up."

"Let's get out."

## WHAT TO TRY

Give your child a cue for Grandma's. (picture, a smell)

Pick a cue that you will use for the car. (key, buckle)

Help your child feel the doorknob.

Give your child the cue and let them feel the car.

Give your child a touch cue to pick them up.

Let your child explore the seatbelt before latching it.

Give the same cue for Grandma.

## WHAT TO WATCH FOR

Child might laugh with joy.

Child may reach out and touch the object.

Child reaches/touches the door and shows excitement.

Child might smile and vocalize.

Child might move their body up.

Child might put their arms through the straps.

Child might clap their hands with excitement.

## SIGNS OF UNDERSTANDING:

- Body language
- Gestures
- Vocalizations
- Words or signs

**E**nd car rides the **same** way each time so your child learns when they are done.

