



Rear Facing Quotables

CPSTs (Child Passenger Safety Technicians) are often asked why children should ride rear-facing as long as possible. The following “sound bites” from experts in the field will help you explain the science behind this recommendation.

“Children in the second year of life are 5 times less likely to die or be seriously injured in a crash if restrained rear-facing compared to forward-facing.”

- Henary B, Sherwood C, Crandall J, et al. Car Safety Seats for Children: Rear-Facing for Best Protection. *Injury Prevention*, 2007.

“All infants and toddlers should ride in a Rear-Facing Car Seat until they are 2 years of age or until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car seat's manufacturer.”

- **AAP: American Academy of Pediatrics**, COMMITTEE ON INJURY, VIOLENCE, AND POISON PREVENTION Policy Statement--Child Passenger Safety (<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2011/03/21/peds.2011-0213>)

“Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It’s the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat’s manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness.”

- **NHTSA: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**, **Car Seats & Booster Basics** (<http://www.safercar.gov/parents/RightSeat.htm>)

“For the best protection, keep your child in a rear-facing car seat for as long as possible – usually until about 2 years old. You can find the exact height and weight limit on the side or back of your car seat. Kids who ride in rear-facing seats have the maximum protection for the head, neck and spine.”

- **Safe Kids Worldwide** (<http://www.safekids.org>)

“Rear-facing seats in the back seat from birth to at least age 1 and minimum of 20 pounds. It's safest to keep the baby in the rear-facing position as long as possible up to the upper size (height and weight) limits of the seat, which is usually around 30-35 pounds.”

- **AAA: American Automobile Association:** (www.AAA.com/carseat)