

# Memo

St. Teresa's Academy

Kansas City, Missouri

To: Judy Downey, MetLife  
From: Jessie Thompson  
Re: CRASH! The Science of Collisions Materials

I have been teaching physics at St. Teresa's Academy in Kansas City, Missouri, for the past ten years. One of my goals is to make physics exciting and interesting for my students. This past year I began using activities from CRASH! to teach many of the scientific principles I already cover in my curriculum. I did not change my curriculum to include these CRASH! activities; I simply used CRASH! materials in place of text or lab book exercises. CRASH! provides students with a powerful connection between science and real-life situations. Also through our discussion students became more aware of the importance of safe driving practices. Students enjoyed the learning process and were truly engaged in the CRASH! activities.

David Beier, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher in Lee's Summit, Mo has used several CRASH! activities and says:

*"The CRASH! kit is full of materials that are a perfect supplement to many of my classes. I have used about six of the activities in my sixth-grade science classes, and I love that I can use the activities as assessments of what my students have been learning. The CRASH program is a tremendous way for me to keep my science classes interesting and vibrant. My students end up on a collision course with learning."*

I truly believe that the CRASH! materials are an excellent addition to my Physics and Physical Science classrooms. The materials are easy to incorporate into an already existing curriculum and should not require any changes to a schools' existing curriculum. I applaud MetLife for its commitment to improve and enhance students' learning in the classroom. At the same time CRASH! activities will raise students' awareness of the importance of driving safely and wearing seat belts as well as the consequences of accidents and collisions.