## Objective

The students will recognize the energy efficiency of different kinds of transportation and benefits of carpooling.

## Materials

- Bag of pretzels
- Plastic sandwich bags
- Cards with automobile names, gas mileage, and the number of passengers each car will carry
- Three signs (Home, Near Town, Far Town)


## Preparation

1. Prepare a plastic bag with ten pretzels for each student.
2. Print cards with automobile information. If you would like to print the cards on labels use Avery 5392.
3. Select a large area and place Home, Near Town, and Far Town signs on poles or walls. The distance to Near Town should be 50 steps. The distance to Far Town should be 100 steps. (Do not give these distances to students.)

## © Procedure

1. Distribute automobile cards to students. Have students look over the information about their car.
2. Distribute a bag of pretzels to each student. Tell students not to eat the pretzels until they are told to.
3. Explain to the students that each pretzel represents one gallon of gasoline, and each step (heel-to-toe) the student takes represents one mile traveled.
4. Students eat a pretzel and take the appropriate number of steps before eating the next pretzel. All steps are heel-to-toe.

## (1) Round One

- Use only 5 pretzels for this round. Each person will drive his/her car. Students will go to work in NEARTOWN and return HOME. If anyone runs out of fuel (pretzels), he/she must stay at that point until round one is over. Line up at HOME and start stepping!
- Discuss: Which cars got you to work and home? Which didn't?

Did anyone have extra fuel remaining?
What alternatives to driving your own car are there?

## (2) Round Two

- Use the remaining five pretzels, try some of the suggestions discussed above. Expect "negotiations." Suggest students carpool to work. Drivers may eat each passengers pretzels as fuel. Everyone will travel to FAR TOWN and return HOME. Line up at HOME and start stepping!
- Discuss: Who made it to FAR TOWN and back? How did you do this?

Who did not make it to FAR TOWN and back? Why not?


## Chevrolet Corvette

## 1998

MPG: 15
Number of Passengers: 2


## Chevrolet Express 1500

 2010MPG: 14
Number of Passengers: 8


## Bentley Azure

MPG: 11
Number of Passengers: 4


## Ford F150 Pickup

1990
MPG: 16
Number of Passengers: 2


## Toyota Tundra

 2010MPG: 16
Number of Passengers: 3


## Volkswagen Rabbit

 1984MPG: 27
Number of Passengers: 2


## Lincoln Navigator

2010
MPG: 16
Number of Passengers: 6


## Honda Civic CNG

 2010MPG: 28
Number of Passengers: 5



## Hyundai Sante Fe 4WD

2010
MPG: 22
Number of Passengers: 5



## Acura RDX

 2010MPG: 21
Number of Passengers: 5


## BMW 535i

2010
MPG: 20
Number of Passengers: 5


## Chrysler Sebring Convertible

2010
MPG: 23
Number of Passengers: 4


## Ford Escape Hybrid

 2010MPG: 32
Number of Passengers: 5





