

Canyon Driving Lesson Plan-

[Web Version](#)

Attention activity-

Stories about Sardine canyon accidents (These can be replaced by stories from your region)

- <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700006381/2-fatal-accidents-hit-Utah-within-an-hour.html>
- <http://www.ksl.com/index.php?nid=148&sid=1238285>
- Personal Experience near Vernal

Main causes of accidents in Canyons-

- [Speed](#)
 - Speeding, aside from driving under the influence of alcohol is one of the leading causes of highway collisions. It accounted for about 32 percent of all motor vehicle crash deaths.
 - [4 Teens Die in speed related accident](#)
 - [Spanish Fork accident](#)
- [Weather](#)
 - Driving too fast for the weather conditions plays a major role in fatal crashes each year, especially during the winter. UC Berkeley's traffic center says speed is the single greatest contributing factor to serious crashes--not so much the violation of a posted speed limit, but when drivers ignore weather or traffic conditions that require a reduced speed. [UTAH BASIC SPEED LAW](#)
 - [Worst Day to Drive](#)
 - [Google Street View](#) of Black Ice spot in Sardine canyon and Dry Lake (Replace with your own local bad road condition areas)
- [Wildlife](#)
 - According to the Box Elder County Sherriff's office about 3/5 of accidents in Sardine Canyon involve wildlife
 - [Deer Safety Video](#)
 - While driving this fall, AAA insurance agents recommend drivers keep the following tips in mind to stay safe on roadways.
 - Scan the road and shoulders ahead of you. Looking ahead helps provide enough reaction time if a deer is spotted. Also, remember deer often move in groups, so when there is one deer, there are usually more in the area.
 - Use high beam headlights if there is no oncoming traffic. Deer may be spotted sooner when using high beams allowing time to slow down, move over or beep to scare the deer away from the road.

- If a collision is unavoidable, press the brakes firmly and remain in your lane. Swerving to avoid a deer can often cause a more serious crash or result in drivers losing control of vehicles.
 - Drivers should always wear a seat belt and drivers should remain awake, alert and sober.
 - [Deer in Utah / statistics](#)
- [Narrow / winding Roads](#)
- **Other risk factors**
 - Lack of sleep
 - aggressive driving / impatient lane change ([Daniels Canyon](#))
 - Blind Turns ([Blacksmith fork canyon](#))
 - Unsecured Loads
 - Turning on and off road ([Logan Canyon](#))
 - Road conditions(motorcycle and gravel)
 - Distractions
 - Slow moving traffic (plan ahead)
 - Changing lanes in a turn ([Weber Canyon](#))
 - Controlling downhill speed

Conclusion-

Students would be given this lesson in the classroom. We do a BTW lesson in Sardine canyon where we enforce a lot of these ideas.

Five Questions-

1. If a collision with a deer is unavoidable, what two steps should you do?
Answer- Press brake firmly and stay in lane. NEVER SWERVE
2. When driving in adverse conditions what speed law should we follow?
Answer- Utah Basic speed law
3. What is the single most contributing factor to traffic accidents?
Answer- Speed
4. When is the worst time to drive in the winter according to number of fatal traffic accidents?
Answer- The day after the first major storm of the year
5. What two things do you have less of when driving on a winding road?
Answer- Visibility and control