

THE FACTS

The right to walk safely seems fundamental, especially for children, yet each year more than 600 children have died from injuries sustained while walking, over 500 of these in traffic.

- In 2009, nearly 34,000 children ages 14 and under were treated in hospital emergency rooms for pedestrian-related injuries and 15 children were killed as pedestrians in school bus-related incidents.
- 40 percent of traffic-related pedestrian deaths occurred between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- Nearly 10 percent of injuries occur in driveways when children are playing or walking behind a vehicle.
- The most likely places injuries occur are in residential areas with two way streets, lots of traffic and parked cars, and few play areas.
- Toddlers (ages 1 to 2) have the highest number of pedestrian injuries, mainly due to their small size and limited traffic experience. More than half occur when a vehicle is backing up.
- Two-thirds of drivers exceeded the posted speed limit in school zones during the 30 minute period before and after school.

SO DON'T...

- Don't chase balls, toys, or pets into the street, ask an adult to help you get it back.
- Don't block your ears with headphones especially with the volume turned up high. You may miss a blowing horn or other important noises.
- Don't text on a cell phone, you might accidentally walk into the street, or not be alert to cars, sirens, or other hazards.

MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A GRANT FROM

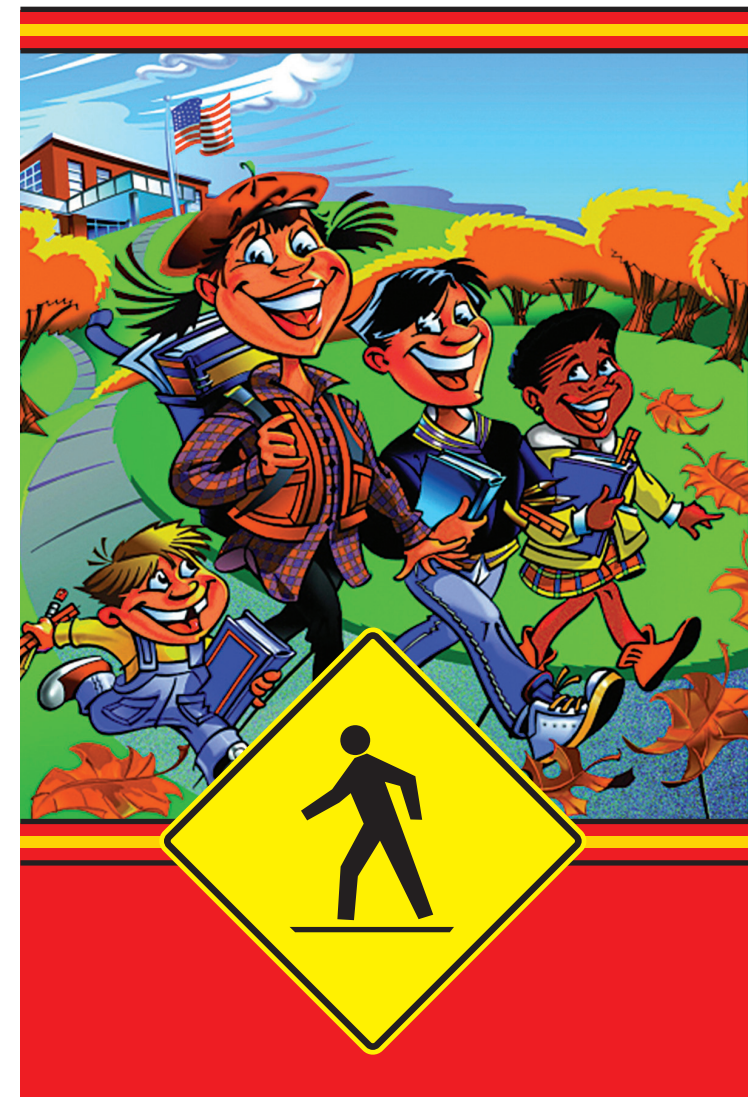


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WALKING SAFELY



WALKING SAFETY

- ✓ Walk on the sidewalk if possible.
- ✓ If there is no sidewalk, walk on the LEFT side of the street, facing oncoming traffic.
- ✓ Walk with an adult until you are at least 10 years old and hold their hand.
- ✓ Wear light-colored clothing or something with reflective tape or devices so drivers can see you.
In the morning, when the sun isn't up yet and as it starts to get dark, the lights from cars will reflect from the tape or devices and attract attention to you.
- ✓ Use a flashlight if you have one.
- ✓ Stay with a group whenever possible.
- ✓ Always keep your head up to watch what is going on around you.

WHEN CROSSING STREETS

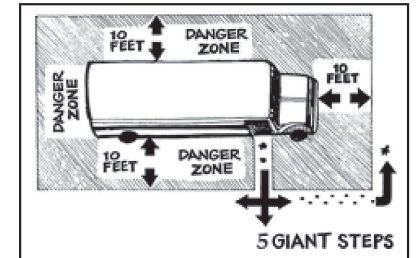
STOP, LOOK & LISTEN BEFORE you cross the street!

Use your **EYES** • Then your **EARS**
Then use your **Feet**

- ✓ Look left, right, left. Continue to look left and right as you walk across the street until you reach the other side.
- ✓ Cross at crosswalks not in the middle of the street.
- ✓ Push the button and wait for the traffic signal before crossing.
- ✓ Obey traffic lights.
- ✓ Use crossing bridges when present.

AROUND BUSES

- ✓ Don't walk in front of the bus unless the driver tells you it is okay. Then go far enough away that the bus driver can see you and watches you cross.



- ✓ If you drop something in front of the bus, don't stop to pick it up! The driver cannot see you. Wait until you get to the other side and get the bus drivers attention and inform them OR return with an adult to retrieve the item dropped.
- ✓ NEVER put yourself in harms way for a dropped object!
- ✓ If you ride on the bus stay in your seat and talk quietly so the driver can concentrate on driving not your noise.

AROUND CARS & PARKING LOTS:

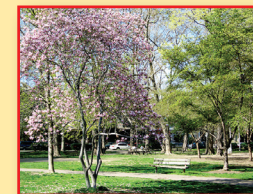
- ✓ Walk in a designated path.
- ✓ Cross with the help of the crossing guard.
- ✓ Do not run in a parking lot.
- ✓ Do not think cars can see you and know you are coming.
- ✓ Be mindful of cars backing up.
- ✓ Do not zig-zag around parked cars.



RAILROAD CROSSINGS

- ✓ Trains can't stop as quickly as a car. They are big and moving faster than it looks.
- ✓ A train going 55 miles per hour can take up to a mile to stop – that's 20 football fields!
- ✓ Never try to cross railroad tracks if a train is coming.
- ✓ Only cross at railroad crossings and STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN just as you would to cross the street.
- ✓ When a train is coming stand at least 10 giant steps away from the track.
- ✓ When one train passes be sure another one is not coming after it or from the other direction.
- ✓ ALWAYS get off your bike and walk it across the tracks.
- ✓ Walking or playing on and around railroad tracks is dangerous.

SAFE PLAY AREAS



- ✓ Backyard
- ✓ Playground
- ✓ Park