



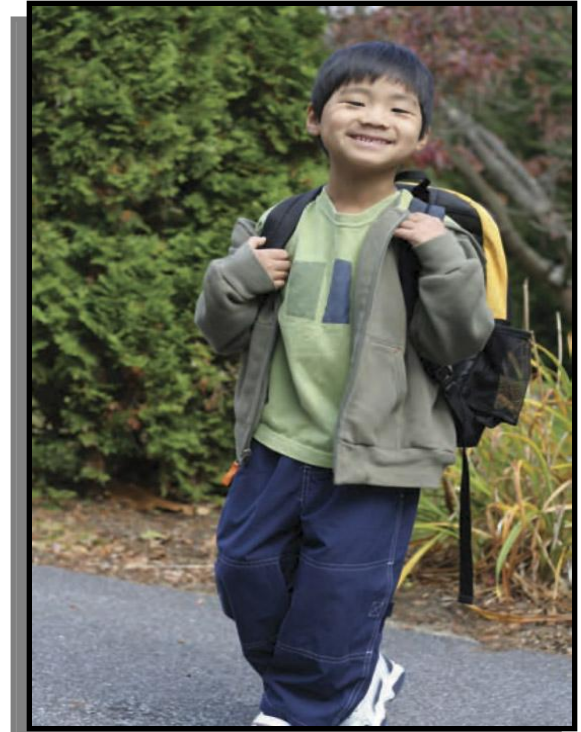
CHILDREN AS PEDESTRIANS

Health is Academic



CHILDREN IN TRAFFIC – WHY ARE THEY DIFFERENT?

- THEY HAVE A LOWER EYE LEVEL – BLOCKED VIEW
- THEIR FIELD OF VISION IS ONLY TWO-THIRDS OF AN ADULTS
- THEY DO NOT JUDGE SPEED AND DISTANCE WELL



CHILDREN IN TRAFFIC – WHY ARE THEY DIFFERENT?

- IF I CAN SEE IT THEN IT CAN SEE ME
- THEY CANNOT DETERMINE THE SOURCE OF SOUNDS
- THEY LACK TRAFFIC EXPERIENCE
- THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND DANGEROUS SITUATIONS
- THEY TEND TO CONCENTRATE ON ONLY ONE THING AT A TIME



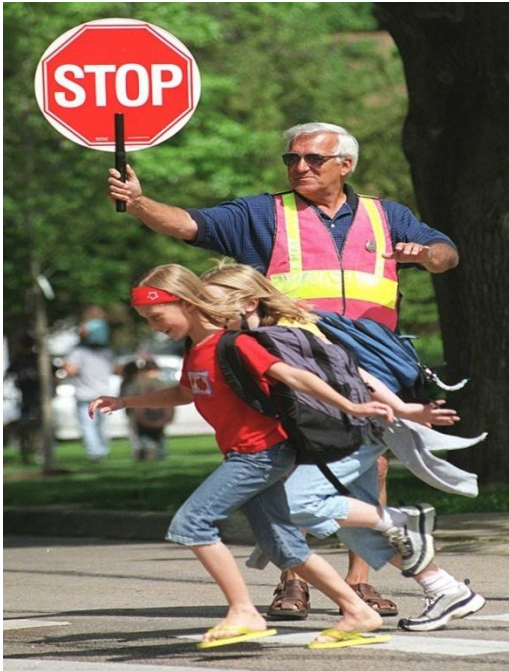
CHILDREN IN TRAFFIC – WHY ARE THEY DIFFERENT?

- ONCE THEY ARE MOVING IT IS HARD TO STOP THE MOTION
- THEY OVERESTIMATE THEIR ABILITY



Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

Whether a crossing guard is present or not, student pedestrians should always use the proper search pattern and follow these safety steps:



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Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

- Stop at the curb or edge of the street (if a crossing guard is present, do not proceed until directed).
- Look left, right, then left again for approaching traffic.
- If vehicles parked on the street block your view of traffic, move forward to the edge of the line of parked vehicles where you can see in both directions and look left, right and left again.
- At an intersection corner, also check over your shoulder for turning vehicles.
- When safe to go, walk directly across the street at a consistent pace and keep watching for any traffic that might be approaching.





Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

The primary responsibility of an adult school crossing guard is to help children safely cross the street at a school crossing as they walk to and from school.

This is accomplished by:

- Reinforcing safe crossing skills and discouraging unsafe behavior near traffic, such as darting into the street without looking or crossing against a traffic signal.





Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

- Using and extending gaps in traffic to help students cross safely. At a crosswalk without a signal or stop sign, when gaps in traffic are not long enough for children to safely cross the street (i.e., unless drivers stop), a guard creates an adequate gap by stopping traffic temporarily. The guard stops traffic with a hand signal or a STOP paddle, then verbally directs children to cross the street. The guard is always the first person in the street and the last person out of the street.





Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

- Observing and reporting any incidents or conditions that present a potential safety hazard to the school children or guard.





Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

Pedestrian Safety:

- Show kids how to be a safe pedestrian by your own actions.
- Teach kids pedestrian safety rules too.
- Make sure kids can be seen when they are walking.





Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

Set a Good Example:

- Cross streets at a corner. Use signals and crosswalks when they are there.
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- Look left, right and left again before crossing. Keep looking as you cross.
- Walk across streets. Don't run.
- Walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, face traffic and stay left.
- Watch for cars that are turning or backing up.





Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

Rules for Kids

- Teach kids all of the safe walking rules to follow.
- Never allow kids under age 10 to cross streets alone.
- Tell kids never to run into the street for any reason. They shouldn't chase a ball, a pet or anything else.
- Make sure kids use direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- Teach kids to cross 10 feet in FRONT of the school bus, NEVER BEHIND!
- Make sure kids play in safe places like yards, parks and playgrounds. Kids should never play in the street.
- Hold kids' hands in parking lots and while crossing the street.





Crosswalk Safety – What You and Your Child Should Know

Being Seen

- Keep kids from walking alone when it's hard to be seen. That includes dawn, dusk, the early evening and rainy and foggy weather.
- Make sure kids wear retro-reflective materials. They bounce back light so the wearer can be seen. Retro-reflective materials are found on clothes, shoes, stickers and arm and leg bands.

