

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY!

RULES FOR INTERSECTIONS:

Explain to children the meaning of traffic signs and signals and show them how to use pedestrian walk and don't walk signs. Teach them to watch for cars making a turn.



NO DASHING OUT:

Tell them never to dash out into the road without stopping and looking for traffic. Explain how hard it is for a vehicle to stop quickly and how difficult is for a driver to see them in that instant, especially if there are parked cars or bushes around.

STREETS ARE FOR VEHICLES: Make it a rule not to play in the street. When walking on a street that has no sidewalks, teach them to stay along the side of the road or grass and walk facing traffic.

BACKING UP:

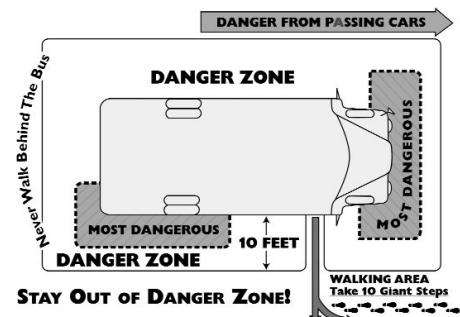
Children should not play on or near driveways. Teach them how to watch out for vehicles backing out of driveways and parking spots. Never back out of a driveway without checking around your vehicle for a small child.



HITCHING A RIDE: Jumping onto the backs of vehicles is dangerous and should be strictly forbidden. Talk to your children about the risks.

TAKE A WALK: Walk with your children and practice safe pedestrian skills. Explain that motor vehicles are bigger and faster than they are. Stress the importance of crossing at corners or crosswalks. Show them how to stop at the curb or edge of the road. Instruct them to look left, right, left for traffic and to continue looking as they cross. Remember to listen for traffic.

DANGER ZONE: Show children where the school bus danger zone is (10 feet around the bus). Explain that the bus driver cannot see them there so they must stay out of this area. When crossing the street teach children to walk out 10 giant steps (10 feet) in front of the bus, make eye contact with and wait for the driver's signal. Remind them to stop at the edge of the bus and check the street left, right and left again.



SET GUIDELINES:

Tell children where they can and cannot play. These boundaries can expand gradually as they get older.

Always enforce these rules and be consistent. Children under ten years old should never cross a street without an adult.

SEE AND BE SEEN: Teach children how to make eye contact with drivers before they cross in front of a vehicle. Show them that they cannot see a car coming if they try to cross too closely to parked cars. Dress them in bright colored clothing when outdoors, use reflective materials and have them carry a flashlight at dusk or night.

