



SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM
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SIP TIP: BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS

BUS SAFETY - Motorists are reminded that state law requires vehicles to stop for school buses loading and unloading children unless the bus is across a divided highway with a median or you are on a four lane road and traveling in the opposite direction. Drivers should also remember that children will be gathered at bus stops on the side of the road beginning Monday morning and should be alert to kids that may be crossing the road to reach a bus stop. Parents should insure that children have a safe area to wait for the bus that is off the roadway and visible to oncoming traffic.

TRAVELING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Review the basic rules with your youngster:

School Bus

- Wait for the bus to stop before approaching it from the curb.
- Do not move around on the bus.
- Check to see that no other traffic is coming before crossing.
- Make sure to always remain in clear view of the bus driver.

Bike

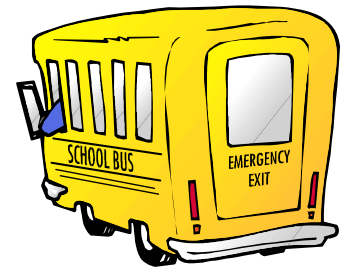
- Always wear a bicycle helmet, no matter how short or long the ride.
- Ride on the right, in the same direction as auto traffic.
- Use appropriate hand signals.
- Respect traffic lights and stop signs.
- Wear bright color clothing to increase visibility.
- Know the "rules of the road."

Walking to School

- Make sure your child's walk to a school is a safe route with well-trained adult crossing guards at every intersection.
- Be realistic about your child's pedestrian skills. Because small children are impulsive and less cautious around traffic, carefully consider whether or not your child is ready to walk to school without adult supervision.
- **Bright colored clothing will make your child more visible to drivers.**

USE THIS CHECKLIST TO PREPARE YOUR CHILDREN FOR A SAFE SCHOOL YEAR.

- Make sure your child knows his or her telephone number and address as well as 911 for an emergency.
- Plan a walking route to the bus stop with your child.
- Make sure that they walk to school with others; a friend, brother or sister.
- When car-pooling, drop off and pick up as close to school as possible.
- Teach your child never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers or others without your permission. You might want to have your child have a secret password that only someone you sent would know, in case you had to have someone new pick them up before you had a chance to tell them. If the person doesn't know the password, your child will know not to go with them.



REMINDER: WATCH FOR KIDS, DON'T EXPECT THEM TO WATCH FOR YOU!