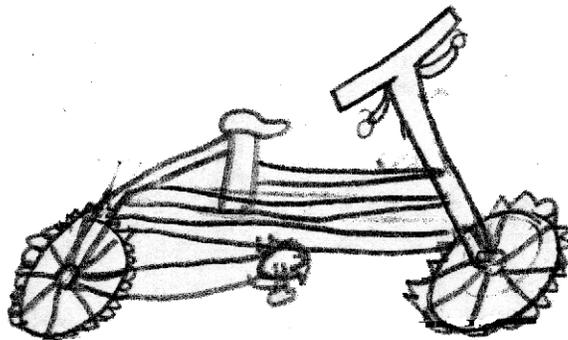


GETTING THERE

Guide for Grown-ups



Did you know that transportation crashes are the leading cause of death for children ages 5 through 15? Each year more than 3,000 children die and another 300,000 are injured in transportation-related incidents in the US. Traveling is a big part of a child's school day: by bike, foot, skates, buses and cars. Your interest in bringing traffic safety education into your classroom is to be commended.

The original purpose of designing this booklet to be more than just another coloring book stemmed from the notion that a more engaging format would result in greater retention among the participants. One teacher who participated in the pilot test wrote: "Some of the drawings were hard for the kids. They're so used to having everything done for them that they found it tough. I think it is more challenging for them and they remember more because they worked at it instead of just coloring."

Although there were many positive comments about the format, many were concerned about the struggle it presented to the artistically challenged. As a result, revisions were made to modify the drawing requirements (more partial drawings are provided) and an alternative to write about the situations is provided.

Reviewers were asked to comment on the merits of this booklet as a comprehensive, stand-alone guide. Several reported using it in conjunction with other traffic safety activities and resources, such as a school-wide safety program with speakers and contests. Those who used it as a stand-alone activity felt it was appropriate only with a page-by-page discussion of the concepts. As you figure out ways to integrate these traffic safety concepts into your curriculum, you may find the suggestions for additional resources in this handout of value.

Although this was field tested primarily with classroom teachers, it was suggested that this is an excellent guide for teens to use with younger children, in particular, members of the 4-H Clover Bud program.

It is hoped that these materials will motivate your students to keep themselves, their friends, and their relatives safe each time they travel. It is also hoped that they will become more aware of the importance of taking responsibility for one's own actions and that walking and bicycling are fun and healthful activities.

Lois Chaplin

This publication is the companion guide to Getting There: A fun activity booklet to help you learn about important traffic safety tips by Lois Chaplin (publication #RWB-1-S99). Funded in part by a grant from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and the New York State 4-H Foundation. Layout by Rob Brown. While this booklet is in the public domain, and may be copied freely, please credit the source whenever you copy or quote any portion of this document. Copyright © 1999 by Lois Chaplin

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Some Resources for Traffic Safety

- u There may be community-based traffic safety educational programs you could tap into. Contact your county Traffic Safety Board for more information.
- u “Share the Road” is a common message found in educational campaigns throughout the country - reminding road users that they all have a responsibility to act in ways to make the road safer for all users - motorists, pedestrians and cyclists alike. There may be advocacy groups locally conducting similar public awareness campaigns that may be pertinent to your efforts. Take this opportunity to introduce the students to this important traffic safety concept.
- u The “Bicycle and Pedestrian Traffic Safety Resource Guide” is another resource for classroom teachers starting a new traffic safety program, or enhancing one already in place in a school or community. For a free copy of this publication or more information on this or other resources, write to Lois Chaplin.

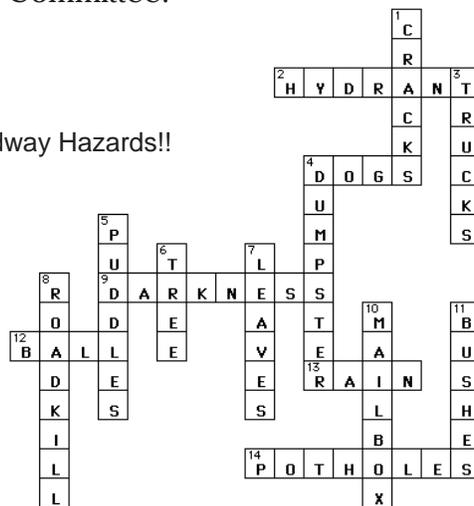
Facts, Tips and Answers About Questions and Problems in Getting There

- u Pedestrians must use a sidewalk if one is available or walk on the left facing traffic. (page 3)
- u Bicycle on the right hand side of the street. Wrong way bicycling is a common cause of bike-car crashes. (page 5)
- u Bicyclists must obey the traffic laws, just like motorists.
- u There are many hazards to be aware of. Visual hazards can be: bushes, telephone poles, mailboxes, darkness, trees, garbage bins or other cars that block one’s view of traffic. Moving hazards could be: vehicles, dogs, people, or balls rolling into the street. Surface hazards include: debris, potholes, loose gravel, cracks in the pavement, puddles, dead animals, and leaves. (page 6)
- u New York State law requires children under the age of 14 to wear a helmet while bicycling or in-line skating. It is recommended, however, that all cyclists and skaters wear helmets. They are a proven method of reducing the severity of head injuries. (page 7)
- u Regarding safety messages for getting on and off school buses, check with your school’s policy. (page 9) A fun class activity can be designing posters on bus safety.
- u The scrambled words on page 11 are: (1) sidewalk, (2) pedestrian, (3) bicyclists, (4) helmet, (5) right and (6) skaters. The sentences are: (1) Walk on the sidewalk if one is there. (2) Always bike on the right side of the street. (3) Smart in-line skaters and bicyclists always wear a helmet. (4) A pedestrian is someone who walks to where they want to go. (5) People who ride bikes are called bicyclists. (6) A helmet protects your brain.
- u The scrambled up traffic safety rules from page 12 are: (1) Follow the traffic laws and signals. (2) Always use a crosswalk when walking across the street. (3) Look for traffic before crossing the street. (4) Always wear a helmet when bicycling or in-line skating. (5) Don’t bike at night.

These web sites may be of interest:

- u The New York State 4-H Bicycle Safety Education Program:
<http://www.cals.cornell.edu/dept/aben/bicycle/education/edyouth.html>
- u The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Safety City:
<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/kids/biketour/index.html>
- u NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Injury Prevention for Injury Facts:
<http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/research/injury/injury.htm>
- u The Consumer Product Safety Commission for Recreational Safety Publications:
http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/rec_sfy.html
- u The Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute:
<http://www.bhsi.org/>
- u The NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee:
<http://www.nysgtsc.state.ny.us/>

Roadway Hazards!!



Signs of Traffic



BIKE
 GREEN
 RIGHT
 WALK
 FUN
 RED
 STOP

Hazards



BUSHES
 DARKNESS
 HYDRANT
 POTHOLES
 RAIN
 TRUCKS
 DOGS
 DUMPSTER
 MAILBOX
 PUDDLES
 TREE