

Protect



Yourself

As children attend school,
it is important to know
school bus safety rules.



Drivers, watch for children . . .

- Walking or bicycling to school when backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage.
- Who may be thinking about getting to school, but not about getting there safely.
- Walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood.
- Playing and congregating near bus stops.
- Arriving late for the bus and darting into the street without looking for traffic.

Learn the school bus “flashing signal light system”

- **Yellow flashing lights** indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Slow down and prepare to stop.
- **Red flashing lights** and extended stop arms indicate the bus has stopped, and children are getting on or off. Stop and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before starting to drive again.

Work with your children to be safe by . . .

- Getting to the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive, standing at least three giant steps (six feet) away from the curb, and lining up away from the street.
- Waiting until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says it is okay before stepping onto the bus.
- Walking on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least five giant steps (10 feet) ahead of the bus before crossing the street.
- Being sure the bus driver can see them, and they can see the bus driver.
- Using the handrails to avoid falls.
- Being careful that clothing with drawstrings, and book bags with straps do not get caught in the handrails or doors when exiting the bus.
- Never walking behind the bus.
- Walking at least three giant steps away from the side of the bus.
- Not trying to pick up something that was dropped near the bus because they may not be seen by the driver.

Parents should...

- Teach children to follow these rules to make school bus transportation safer.

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