

Grades 3 to 5

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Beginning to
Understand
Safety

SCOPE and OBJECTIVE

The bus ride to and from school is an integral part of a child's school day. Even children who do not use the bus to get to or from school will probably ride a school bus at some point throughout the year. Whether they are on a ride to school, a field trip, or a sporting event, all children should be familiar with the safety rules relating to school buses.

The objective of this program is to reiterate the school bus safety guidelines to students enrolled in grades 3 to 5.

NOTE TO THE FACILITATOR

This program will provide instructions on the safety procedures to follow when walking to the bus, getting on the bus, riding the bus, and getting off the bus.

The following instructional guide is to be used in conjunction with the accompanying overhead transparencies. While we recognize that school bus safety requires commitment from teachers, parents, drivers, and students (as well as many others), we have focussed on what the student can do to make the bus ride safer.

Thank you for taking the time to help our students.

CONTENTS

- teacher's guide
- eight transparencies

You will require the use of an overhead projector for this presentation.

HANDOUTS

Samples of handouts and information on how to obtain them can be found in the binder. Feel free to provide the children with other material that you think may be helpful.

VIDEOS

A listing of recommended videos, including a description, distributor's name and address, cost and recommended age group can be found in following section of this binder.

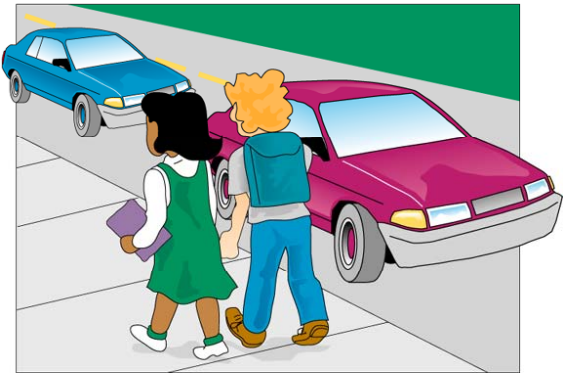
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WALKING TO THE BUS STOP

Place transparency # 1 on the projector.

- ☺ Walk on the left side of the road facing traffic.



- ☺ If there are no sidewalks, walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic. Remember that the paved portion is for vehicles.

- ▶ Read and discuss the safety guidelines listed on the transparency.
- ▶ Ask the students if they can come up with more safety tips for times when they are walking to the bus stop.
- ▶ Please discuss their suggested safety tips and ensure that the following guidelines are covered:

- ☺ Be on time - make sure that you leave home early enough to be at the bus stop before the bus arrives.
- ☺ Always walk on the sidewalk, if there is one.
- ☺ Walk in single file where no sidewalk exists.
- ☺ Always walk in an open area in plain view - not in alleys or fields.

AT THE BUS STOP



Place transparency # 2 on the projector.

- ☺ Wait quietly without pushing or shoving, and remember that accidents happen unintentionally.
- ☺ When you see the bus coming, quietly form a line. Remember not to push. Be courteous.
- ☺ If you must cross the roadway, make sure the bus is completely stopped and wait for the driver to give you the **go-ahead signal** before you cross.

- ▶ Read and discuss the safety guidelines listed on the transparency.
- ▶ Ask the students if they can come up with more safety tips on how to behave at the bus stop.
- ▶ Please discuss their suggested safety tips and ensure that the following guidelines are covered:

- ☺ Stay off people's lawns or driveways, unless you have permission.
- ☺ Make sure you stand in a safe place by putting a safe distance between yourself and the vehicles on the road.
- ☺ Playing or running around at the bus stop can lead to injuries. It is much safer to just stand still and talk to your friends.
- ☺ Keep your bus stop clean and always pick up after yourself.
- ☺ Snow banks are great for sliding, but not while waiting for the bus.

BOARDING THE BUS

Place transparency # 3 on the projector.

☺ Line up in a single file - BE COURTEOUS.

☺ Make sure the bus is completely stopped before trying to get on.

☺ Get on the bus quickly and carefully. Remember, GO DIRECTLY TO YOUR SEAT.



- ▶ Read and discuss the safety guidelines listed on the transparency.
- ▶ Ask the students if they can come up with more safety tips for times when they board the bus.
- ▶ Please discuss their suggested safety tips and ensure that the following guidelines are covered:

☺ By *being courteous* we mean "no pushing or shoving".

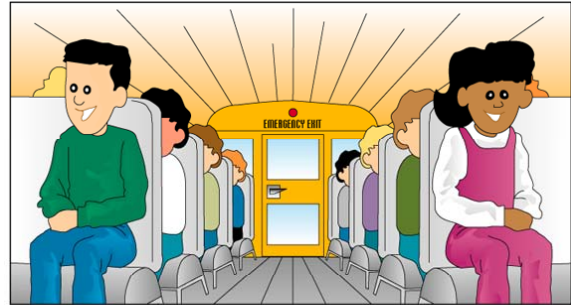
☺ *Being courteous* means "to let the smaller children on the bus first".

☺ While getting on the bus, hold on to the railing; it could prevent you from slipping or tripping.

☺ Make sure no strings, straps or other loose item gets caught in the handrail.

ON THE BUS

Place transparency # 4 on the projector.



- ☺ Obey the driver.
- ☺ Always walk.
- ☺ Go directly to your seat.
- ☺ Keep books or parcels on your lap or under the seat.
- ☺ Talk quietly.
- ☺ Try not to disturb the driver.

- ▶ Read and discuss the safety rules listed on the transparency.
- ▶ Ask the students if they can come up with more safety tips for times when they are travelling on the bus.
- ▶ Please discuss their suggested safety tips and ensure that the following guidelines are covered:

- ☺ Ask the driver's permission to open a window.
- ☺ Keep your head and arms inside the bus.
- ☺ Share your seat - let anyone sit down next to you.
- ☺ Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus.

OFF THE BUS

Place transparency # 5 on the projector.



BE COURTEOUS

- ☺ Stay in your seat until the bus has stopped.



ALWAYS WALK

- ☺ Walk when leaving the bus.



PAY ATTENTION

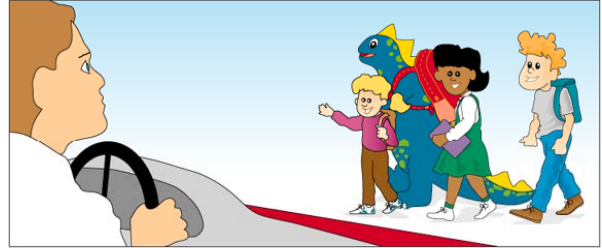
- ☺ Always follow the bus driver's instructions.

- ▶ Read and discuss the safety rules listed on the transparency.
- ▶ Ask the students if they can come up with more safety tips for times when they are getting off the bus.
- ▶ Please discuss their suggested safety tips and ensure that the following guidelines are covered:

- ☺ While getting off the bus, hold on to the handrail. Make sure no strings, straps or other loose item gets caught in the handrail.
- ☺ Never stop or play near the bus after you have disembarked.
- ☺ Go directly home or to your afterschool location.

CROSSING THE ROADWAY

Place transparency # 6 on the projector.



- ☺ Take 5 giant steps along the front of the bus, pass the crossing arm and stop.
- ☺ Look both ways, then
Look up at the driver
- ☺ Wait for the driver to signal you to cross the road.
- ☺ Look both ways again.
- ☺ Walk smartly across the road -
REMEMBER to always walk.
- ☺ Always cross in front of the bus - NEVER behind the bus.

- ▶ Read and discuss the safety rules listed on the transparency.
- ▶ Ask the students if they can come up with more safety tips for times when they are crossing the roadway after getting off the bus.
- ▶ Please discuss their suggested safety tips and ensure that the following guidelines are covered:

- ☺ Always move away from the bus to where the driver can see you.
- ☺ Once you get the driver's O.K. signal to cross, look both right and left before doing so.
- ☺ Go directly home or to your afterschool location.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Place transparency # 7 on the projector.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

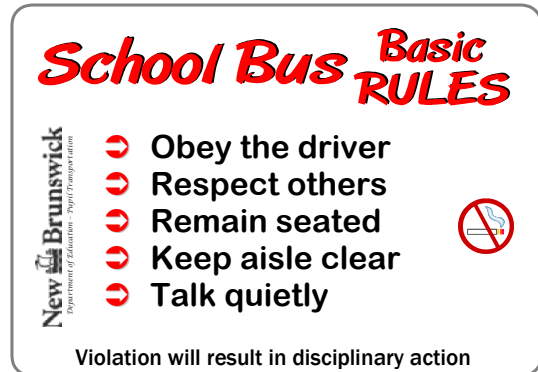
- ☺ Stay calm.
- ☺ Follow the bus driver's instructions.
- ☺ Leave the bus through the door or emergency exits. BE COURTEOUS.
- ☺ Gather off the road away from the bus and the traffic.

- ▶ Read and discuss the safety rules listed on the transparency.
- ▶ Ask the students if they can come up with more safety tips for times when an emergency situation occurs.
- ▶ Please discuss their suggested safety tips and ensure that the following guidelines are covered:

- ☺ Inform the students that, in the near future, they will be participating in an emergency evacuation with their bus driver.

SCHOOL BUS BASIC RULES

Place transparency # 8 on the projector.



- ▶ Introduce the **School Bus Basic Rules**. Read and discuss each rule with the group and ensure that everyone understands what the rules mean.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY GUIDELINES

Place transparency # 9 on the projector.

School Bus SAFETY GUIDELINES



1. **Obey the driver** promptly.
2. Avoid any unnecessary conversation with the driver while the bus is in motion.
3. **Respect the driver and fellow passengers.**
4. Arrive on time and stand away from the roadway while waiting for the school bus.
5. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before moving to get on.
6. When crossing the road, wait for the driver's signal and always cross at least 3 metres in front of the bus. **NEVER CROSS BEHIND THE BUS.**
7. Always keep a safe distance around the school bus.
8. Go directly to your seat; allow others to sit with you. **Remain seated.**
9. Sit facing forward, with your belongings on your lap or under the seat. **Keep the aisle clear.**
10. Obtain approval of the driver to open windows or emergency door. Nothing must hang out or be thrown out of the windows of the bus.
11. **Talk quietly.** Silence is required when approaching a railway crossing.
12. Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus. Use of tobacco is forbidden.
13. Neither pets nor large objects are allowed on the bus.
14. Anyone who intentionally damages the bus will be held responsible.
15. Dress according to weather conditions. For safety reasons, avoid drawstrings or loose objects on clothing and backpacks.

Pupil Transportation is a privilege - follow the rules
Violation may result in disciplinary action and possible loss of transportation

New Brunswick
Department of Education

- ▶ Read and discuss the **School Bus Safety Guidelines**. You may ask the group to read along with you.

- 😊 Copies of these guidelines will be posted on the school bus and in various locations in the school.

THE WRAP-UP

- ▶ Once again remind the students that, in the near future, they will be participating in an emergency evacuation with their bus driver.
- ▶ Ask if there are any questions.
- ▶ Pass out handouts to the children (pamphlets, stickers, etc.).
- ▶ Thank the students for their participation.
- ▶ Thank the teacher/or assistant for the help, if applicable.