



BUS *SAFETY BASICS*

6th Grade Curriculum





Why Talk About Bus Safety?

The bus is one of the safest ways to get around, but only if you use it safely.

FYI — most injuries happen when students are getting on or off the bus.

*Let's make sure you know how to ride
(and walk) smart.*

Safe at the Stop

Staying safe starts **before**
you get on the bus.

Get to your bus stop
**AT LEAST FIVE
MINUTES EARLY.**

Stand back about **10
FEET FROM THE CURB** —
that's five giant steps.

BE CHILL AT THE STOP.
No running or messing
around near the road.

Never run toward the
bus as it approaches.
BE PATIENT!



Getting on the Bus

Rushing or ignoring signals can lead to injuries.

- Wait until the bus stops completely.
- Only board when the driver signals it's safe.
- Use the handrail to get on the bus.
No pushing or racing up the steps.
- Move quickly and calmly to your seat.





Stay Seated, Stay Safe

Most school buses don't have seatbelts — but they're still designed to protect you.

The seats form a safety structure called compartmentalization, similar to how an egg carton protects eggs.

Seatbelts should
always be worn
when available!

For it to work, you need to:

1

SIT FACING
FORWARD

2

STAY IN
YOUR SEAT

3

KEEP THE
AISLE CLEAR



Keep It Calm On the Bus

Loud or rowdy behavior can distract the driver — and that puts everyone at risk.

- Use a quiet voice.
- Keep hands and feet to yourself.
- Respect the driver's job to focus on the road.

Getting off the Bus

Many bus-related injuries happen when students are exiting.

- Wait for the bus to stop fully and for the driver to signal before getting up.
- Watch your step and use the handrail to exit safely.
- Don't rush, push or shove! Everyone will be able to get off the bus.



The DANGER ZONE

The "Danger Zone" is
the 10-foot area around
the bus where the driver
can't always see you.



DANGER
ZONE

10 feet



10
feet

10 feet

WALKING AREA



Walk **10 FEET** away from
all sides of the bus.

NEVER walk behind
the bus.

If you drop something,
tell the driver — **DON'T
TRY TO PICK IT UP!**

How to **Cross the Street Safely**

**This is important. You are
most at risk when crossing
the street in front of the bus.**

Walk **10 FEET** in
front of the bus.

Look **LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT**
for traffic.

Make **EYE CONTACT**
with the driver.

Cross **ONLY** when the
driver signals it's safe.

What Drivers Are *Supposed to Do*

There are laws for drivers to help keep students safe when leaving the bus.

- Cars must come to a **COMPLETE** stop when the bus has flashing red lights and its stop arm is out. Cars cannot continue until the lights are turned off.
- Drivers must never attempt to pass in any direction until the school bus begins moving without its red lights flashing.





EMERGENCY EXIT

Emergency *Situations*

Emergencies on the bus are rare, but it's always good to be prepared.

- Know where the emergency exits are — usually at the back and on the roof of the bus.
- Listen for the driver's instructions.
- Stay calm and help others stay calm.
- Move quickly if the driver instructs you to.

NOW THAT'S STREET SMART!

What's one thing you
learned about bus
safety today that you
didn't know before?

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