

4 The danger of junctions

Find a crossroads or other junction. Discuss why it is a dangerous place to cross the road. **Cars can come from any direction.** They must look **all around and behind** for traffic. Show them it is safer to cross away from a junction.

5 Dangerous places

Look at some dangerous places to cross, for example, by a **bend in the road and under the brow of a hill.** Explain that these are not safe places because **traffic can't be seen** and **drivers can't see you.** Visit a **bus stop**, explain that buses are large and noisy, traffic can't be seen or heard, they should not cross near buses.

Always choose places where they can see clearly all around and drivers can see them.

6 When to cross the road alone?

Go to a busy road and talk about the kind of traffic using it. Explain that they should make a decision **not to cross busy roads alone.** Children under eight aren't able to judge speed and distance so should hold hands with a grown up. Older children should take extra care at busy roads and try to find safer crossing places.

Remember...

- 1 Start talking about traffic as soon as your children are old enough to listen.
- 2 Always set a good example when you are out and about.
- 3 Supervise and hold onto children near the road.
- 4 Keep reminding them - ask them questions and praise them when they get it right.
- 5 Don't let them play near roads.
- 6 When they are ready, train them in pedestrian skills.
- 7 Remember children are forgetful and impulsive, so keep on protecting them.



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Pedestrian Training

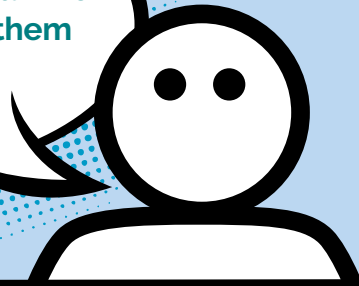
A road safety life skill



TravelTelford



Children need to learn these vital skills to survive on the roads, teach them these vital skills...



1 Cross safely on quiet roads

Choose a quiet road and find a clear stretch away from parked cars where your children can see clearly. Get them to practice simple rules to help them cross safely.

Use...

The Green Cross Code

- 1 First find a safe place to cross, then **STOP**.
- 2 Stand on the pavement a step back from the kerb.
- 3 **LOOK** all around for traffic and **LISTEN**.
- 4 **THINK** is it safe to cross the road?
- 5 When there is **no traffic** near walk straight across the road.
- 6 Keep **looking and listening** for traffic while you cross.

Tell them to walk not run. Teach them that running near roads at any time is dangerous. Train them to walk straight across, not in a diagonal line.

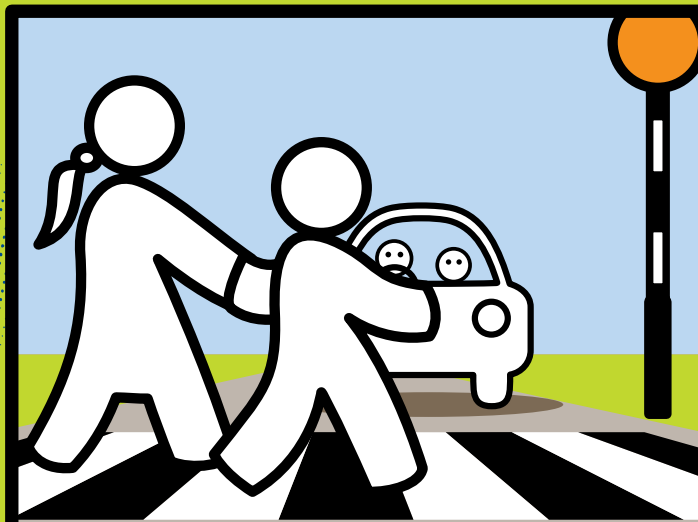


2 Safer crossing places

Visit special crossing places such as pelican and zebra crossings. Teach your children how to use them correctly - it is most important that they check that all traffic has stopped and that all drivers have seen them before crossing.

They should keep **looking and listening** all the way across.

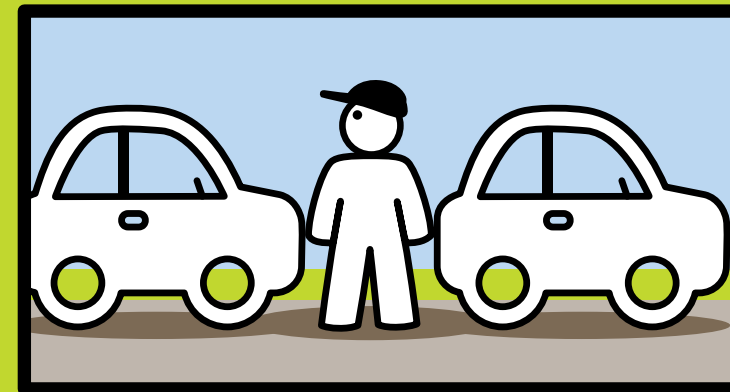
Visit any other special crossing places near by, like puffin and toucan crossings, footbridges, pedestrian refuges and subways. Explain how to use them and practice together. Don't let your children use any of these places alone until you are sure they can cope.



STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK!

3 Crossing between parked cars

In some areas children have to cross between parked cars. First they must check that the cars are not going to move backwards or forwards. Show them how to use the outside edge of the car as though



it were the edge of the pavement, standing between the cars where they can see clearly up and down the road. Then use the **Green Cross Code**.

...cross back and forth together. When they are ready, get them to show you how it is done.

