

Themed Activities: Rules of the Road



Rules of the Road display

Learning Objective

To understand the dangers that may exist on the road and how to keep safe when crossing or playing near the road.

Starting Points

- Discuss with childre what they should think about when crossing the road. Give each pair of children a whiteboard and pen and ask them to write down what they should do when crossing any road, for example, 'stop', 'look', 'listen' and 'cross'. Ask the children to think of actions that they could do to represent the words. For example, 'stop' - raise one hand, 'look' - point to the eyes, 'listen' - point to the ears and 'cross' - make a cross shape with hands or arms.
- Discuss the dangers of cars and their speed. Ask children to think of ideas to slow down traffic. In groups of three or four, ask them to think of a slogan that will either help combat fast traffic or encourage pedestrians to cross with care. For example, 'Be a tortoise and drive s-l-o-w-l-y'. Ask each group to write their slogan on a long piece of card. Cut the cards in half and place face down on the carpet. The children sit in a circle and take turns to pick two pieces of card, if they do not match they replace them and the next child takes their turn.
- If your school is supported by a Crossing Patrol Officer, invite them to speak to the class. Before they arrive, remember to outline to them what you want them to do, and encourage the children to prepare questions to ask them about road safety.

Make

- Use paint and collage materials to create a large crossing patrol officer and cars for the display.
- Create an eye-catching poster that reminds children of the key actions they need to remember 'Stop', 'Look', 'Listen' and 'Cross'.
- Add large road signs, cars and the children's posters to the display.

Activities

- Play 'Cross the Road Safely'. Make large cards that can be attached to a child's clothing. Write one word on each: 'Stop', 'Look', 'Listen' or 'Cross'. Give each child in the group a card to wear except one who must be the Green Cross Code Man and wear a green bib. Cone off an allocated area then ask the children to stand at one end and the Green Cross Code Man in the middle. On a signal such as, "Cross the road safely" the children try to cross the area, while the Green Cross ode Man tries to tag them. However he must tag them in the correct order: 'Stop' first, then 'Look', 'Listen' and 'Cross'. Tagged children are out of the game and must stand still. Once all four children have been tagged another child becomes the Green Cross Code Man.
- Recreate a road situation in the school playground. Ask the children to practice crossing the road safely. If possible, transfer this to a road close to the school. (You will need parental permission for this activity).
- Ask the children to develop their slogans into posters for a display.
- Ask the children to write a leaflet for younger children to help them to cross the road safely.

Develop and Extend

MATHS: Carry out a road safety survey to discover the volume of traffic and busy times of the day.

GEOGRAPHY: Draw a map of the roads around your school. Identify children's routes, the roads they have to cross, and where they might cross them safely.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: Design and make a reflective item that can be used to keep children safe in the dark.

LITERACY: read the poem The World Widens by Ian Souter and discuss the use of 'sleeping policemen', street lights and 'cats' eyes.' How do the children think they help both drivers and pedestrians.

The World Widens

Red! Amber! Green!
Traffic lights wave us on
until we are squeezing along streets
where inquisitive houses lean forward
and sleeping policemen step out boldly
to slow our progress.

Eventually the world widens
And we are flashing by shop fronts
Where frozen models offer the latest fashions
And loud posters offer the latest sales.
Alongside us now a train jogs out
From under a red-bricked bridge;
It coughs several times then sprints off
Towards some distant destination.

Now, as we accelerate towards home,
Street lights slowly flicker awake
And rows of dull cats' eyes
Energetically snap open,
While the purring breath of night
Whispers darkly in our slipstream.

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Adapted from:

Belair On Display - Hands on PSHE
Rules of the Road

More ideas and activities

George's Marvellous Medicine
Recognise the role of medicine and how to stay

Crab's Kingdom
Explore how pollution affects our

View On Display books

Belair On Display - Projects Inspired by the Olympics

Belair On Display - Projects Inspired by Stories

Belair On Display - The Essential Guide to Primary Display

Useful Links

- Road Safety Week
- Think! Education
- Tales of the Road