

What You Can Do...



As a parent

Don't overestimate your children's abilities.

- ◆ Children are small and it is harder for them to see traffic and be seen by drivers.
- ◆ They cannot judge speed, distance or direction well.
- ◆ If they see a car, children think the driver sees them.
- ◆ Children are impulsive, especially when at play.

Protect your children outside

- ◆ A responsible adult needs to be with young children at all times when they are outside.
- ◆ Always hold a child's hand when crossing street.
- ◆ Do not rely on older children to watch younger children. They too can become distracted and could leave your child at risk of being hit by a car.
- ◆ **NEVER ALLOW A CHILD UNDER AGE 8 TO CROSS STREETS ALONE**

Set a good example

- ◆ Children learn from watching what adults do. Do not cross between parked cars.
- ◆ Use signals correctly, walk only on the green "WALK" signal.
- ◆ Walk with your child and explain traffic safety rules.

Get involved with your school

- ◆ Participate in International Walk to School Day during the first week of October. (Learn more about this event: www.cawalktoschool.com)
- ◆ Walk with your child and together plan a safe route for your child's walk to school. (The Santa Ana Unified School District provides "Suggested Routes to School" maps for parents.)
- ◆ Form a "Walking School Bus" or join the volunteer crossing guard program. (Learn more about these and other ways to get involved: www.dhs.ca.gov/routes2school)

REMEMBER

- ◆ Children are not small adults and cannot be responsible for their own traffic safety.
- ◆ Find safe areas for your children to play, away from cars.
- ◆ Do not rush children to school, take the time to walk, drive and park safely.

Kids and cars don't mix!

Be aware, teach your children and keep them safe.



Prepared by: Santa Ana Pedestrian Safety Project

Download this from California's Safe Routes to Schools website: www.dhs.ca.gov/routes2school

