

#4: GETTING ON AND OFF THE BUS

Make children stay at least 6 feet away from the bus until the driver says it's okay to enter. Children will then be able to see the driver and the driver can see them. If children must cross the street to the bus, remind them to wait for the driver to signal that it's safe to cross. They should cross the street 10 feet (5 giant steps) in front of the bus where they can see the driver and the driver can see them. Warn children that, if they drop something near the bus, they should never ever pick it up. Instead, they should tell the bus driver and follow the driver's directions. If they bend over to pick up a dropped object, they might not be seen by the driver and could be hurt if the driver pulls away from the stop. Remind children to look to the right before they step off the bus. Drivers in a hurry sometimes try to sneak by buses on the right.



We want your children to be safe when they travel to and from school. As you help us with the above rules, we hope you will see that school bus safety starts at home.

#5: RIDING THE BUS

Remind your children to be good bus riders. They should:

- Talk quietly.
- Be courteous to the bus driver and follow the driver's directions.
- Keep the aisles clear.
- Stay seated for the whole bus ride.



Teach your children to secure loose drawstrings and other objects that may get caught in the handrail or door of the bus as they are exiting.

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SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

A reminder to parents....

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Committed to Success

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Wakulla County School Transportation



SAFETY...STARTS AT HOME



A REMINDER TO PARENTS

As parents, you are an important part of a total safety program for children who travel by school bus. Children need to learn to be safe pedestrians as they walk to and from the bus as well as to be safe riders when they are on the bus. Here's how you can help:

#1: GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

Have your children put everything they carry in a backpack or school bag so that they won't drop things along the way. Affix a piece of high visibility fluorescent and reflective material to the backpack. Have them wear bright, contrasting colors so that they will be more easily seen by drivers. Make sure they leave home on time so that they can walk to the bus stop and arrive before the bus is due. Running can be dangerous.

Leave home on time so students can walk to the bus stop.



#2: WALKING TO THE BUS STOP

Go to the bus stop with a young child and have older children walk in groups. There's safety in numbers because groups are easier for drivers to see. Don't let pre-school children or pets go with your school child. They can be dangerous near traffic.

Practice good pedestrian behavior along the way:

- Walk on the sidewalk if there is one.
- If there is no sidewalk, stay out of the street if at all possible.
- If you must walk in the street, walk single file, face traffic and stay as close to the edge of the road as you can.
- Stop and look left, right and then left again if you must cross a street. Do the same thing at driveways and alleys. Exaggerate your head turns and "narrate" your actions so that your child knows you are looking left, right and left again.

#3: WAITING AT THE BUS STOP

Don't let your child play running games or

push or shove at the bus stop. It's too dangerous near traffic. Make sure your child stands at least 6 feet (3 giant steps) from the road while waiting for the bus. The child will then be out of the way of the traffic. Have younger children practice taking 3 giant steps to become familiar with what 6 feet mean. And have older children estimate how far 6 feet is from various objects.



Students should stand at least 6 feet from the road while waiting for the bus.

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