

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUS STOP SAFETY TIPS

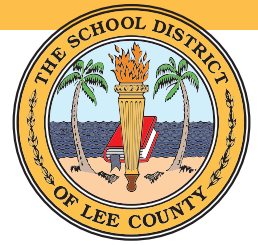
FOR STUDENTS



- ▶ **CROSSWALK** Stay on sidewalks and cross at corners and crosswalks as you go to and from the bus stop. Make sure it's safe to cross by checking for cars to the left and the right.
- ▶ **DON'T RUN** Running at or around school bus stops can be dangerous.
- ▶ **STAY OUT** Take 3 giant steps away from the street while walking or while you wait for the bus. Never sit on the street or the curb.
- ▶ **HEADS UP/PHONES DOWN** Put down phones and remove earbuds so you can see and hear what's happening.
- ▶ **DON'T PLAY** Stay safe. Bus stops are not places to run and play. Stand and wait quietly for the bus.
- ▶ **BE BRIGHT** Wear bright clothing that is easy for drivers to see. Carry a flashlight and add reflective tape to your bookbag.
- ▶ **COMPLETE STOP** Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop. When the door opens, the driver will let you know it's OK to get on or off.
- ▶ **WATCH YOUR STEP** Use the handrails when getting on and off the bus. Be careful of straps or drawstrings that can get caught.
- ▶ **NEVER BEHIND** Don't ever walk behind or cross the street behind a school bus.
- ▶ **LEAVE IT** If you drop something near or under a school bus, let the driver know before you pick it up. They may not see you if you bend down.
- ▶ **SEE AND BE SEEN** Cross in front of the bus when you get off and always make sure the driver can see you. If you cannot see the driver, they probably can't see you.
- ▶ **DANGER ZONE** When you are not getting on or off the bus, make sure you are 5 giant steps away from the bus.
- ▶ **WATCH FOR CARS** As you cross the street in front of the bus. Wait for a signal from your driver that it is safe to cross.
- ▶ **DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS** Alert your bus driver as soon as possible if a stranger tries to approach you.

Sources: Safe Kids Worldwide, National Safety Council, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration


For videos, lessons and safety quizzes, head to our website www.leeschools.net/safety and click the Bus Stop Safety tile.



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FOR PARENTS

The greatest risk to your child is not riding a bus, but approaching or leaving one. Before your child goes back to school or starts school for the first time, it's important for you and your child to know traffic safety rules. Teach your child to follow these school bus stop safety measures.

- ▶ Your child should arrive at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
 - ▶ If your child must walk to the bus stop on a roadway or shoulder where there is no sidewalk, they should always walk facing traffic.
 - ▶ Visit the bus stop and show your child where to wait for the bus.
 - ▶ Decide where it is safest for your child to stand and wait for the bus. Talk to the driver about where they would like your child to wait, so the driver knows where to look for your child.
 - ▶ Assuming your child is old enough to stand at the bus stop, wait with them for at least the first few days to ensure that they understand your instructions.
 - ▶ Encourage your child to put down the phone and take off the headphones while walking to and from and waiting at the bus stop.
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- ▶ Your children should wear clothing that makes it easy for passing motorists to see them. Bright yellow, orange and white clothes are helpful. Reflective material, such as a jacket, shoes and/or a backpack with reflective stripes or tape, is also highly recommended. Headlights of a vehicle will pick up reflective clothing and gear from as far away as 500 feet.
 - ▶ Teach your child to look left for traffic before stepping beyond the front of the school bus when crossing the street. Also, when stepping off the bus, children should look right to make sure the way is clear.
 - ▶ If you meet your child at the bus stop, wait for them on the same side of the street as the bus stop, not across the street. Your child may be distracted when they see you and fail to watch for traffic as they cross the street.

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