

Road Safety in the Primary Curriculum

Year 3

Lesson Plan

Note: This is a 'whole day' lesson

The purpose of this lesson is to begin to develop pupils' awareness of the complexity of the road environment, how unpredictable it can be and how everyone sharing the road space must concentrate on what they are doing, to keep themselves safe and not be a danger to others.

Learning Outcomes

- Pupils will have learned the importance of the meanings of some common vocabulary when used in a road safety context– concentration; reaction; distraction; dangerous; communication; sensible behaviour
- Pupils will be aware of their own responsibility for their safety in the road environment
- Pupils will be aware of how dangerous it can be to distract the driver of a vehicle, either as a passenger or as a pedestrian



Ideas for follow-up work in the classroom:

Road Safety links to Literacy
Road Safety links to Numeracy

NB If you are unable to obtain a recommended resource your local Road Safety Officer should be able to advise you on a suitable alternative.

Whole class

1) Whiteboard exercise

Ask: 'Whose responsibility is your road safety?'
List all the people who must share the road environment Identify those on wheels, including pedestrians.
Why are we asking about wheels?
Discuss all the things a car-driver must think about
Discuss all the things a lorry-driver has to think about
Discuss all the things you as a (pedestrian) must think about
Conclude: We all must concentrate and react quickly

Group work

2) Reaction Test

Ask: Do we all have the same speed of reaction?
Discuss what might stop you concentrating so you react slower Discuss what might stop a driver concentrating so react slower
Conclude: This is called distraction

Whole class

Group work

3) Reaction/Distracted Test

Ask: What did being distracted do to your reaction time?
Talk about passengers distracting drivers
Talk about pedestrians distracting drivers Talk about distracting each other
Conclude: Behaviour that distracts someone can be dangerous
Discuss how own behaviour on the pavement might affect a driver behaviour
How might this cause an accident?
How can you communicate with the drivers?

Whole class

Whole class

Group work

4) Outside our School

(Take a walk out to the school entrance – advisory ratios as per school policy but maximum 1:6. Wear hi-vis jackets)
Ask: What is it like out here at going-home time?
Discuss what might distract drivers
Discuss what might distract you
How can we protect ourselves? (Be seen, seat-belts etc.)
Might it be better if there were no cars allowed outside the school?
How would that work?
Conclude: We must all behave sensibly in the road environment

Group work

Whilst one group is outside the others can:

- Write a story or news item about distracting behaviour causing an accident
- Write an article about why we should wear seat-belts

Whole class

5) Debrief

Pupils discuss what they think they have learned today
Ask: 'So, whose responsibility is your road safety?'
Note if there is a different response now
Conclude: (Hopefully!) Their own; Everybody's!!!!