



Walking to school

Although your child may be too young to walk to school on their own right now, they will need to know how to do this in the future.

When you walk with your child to school, practise some of these tips.

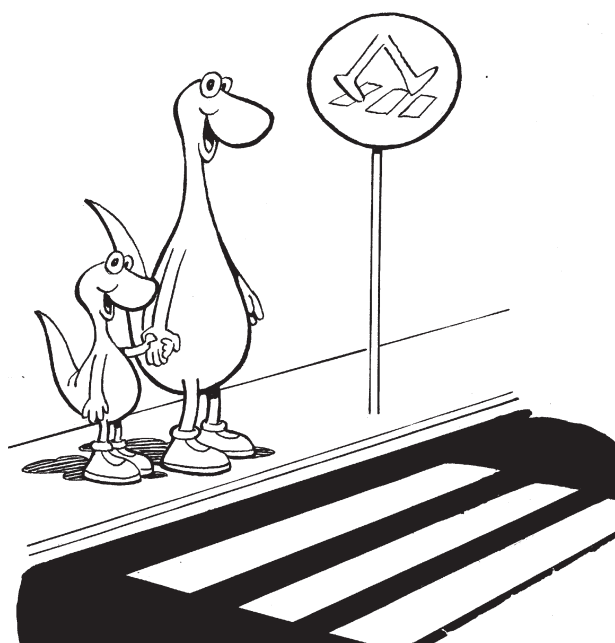


1. **Walk along the safest route to school.**
Tell your child why it is best to walk this way.
2. **Point out the names of streets and landmarks along the way.**
3. **Point out the road signs along the way**
As you leave your house you are very likely to be near a road even if it is a quiet road. Always hold your child's hand. You just never know when your child might stumble or do something unpredictable that could put them in front of an oncoming vehicle.
4. **Talk about places that could be unsafe** such as laneways, busy roads, driveways, car parks and areas without footpaths.

5. **Explain to your child what you are doing and thinking when you cross a road.**
For example: *I'm checking that there isn't any traffic coming. See how I looked in all directions. We need to wait until the bus has gone by and then we can check the road again.*
6. **When you cross the road, talk about and practise these steps with your child.**
Stop at least one step back from the kerb or road.
Look in all directions for traffic, not just right and left, but front and back too.
Listen in all directions for traffic.
Think – is it safe to cross?

Walk straight across the road holding onto your child's hand when it is safe to do so. Remind your child to keep looking and listening for traffic while crossing.

7. **Tell your child about the dangers of crossing between parked cars or other vehicles.**
Show your child places where it is safer to cross along the route to school.



Thank you for playing a vital role in your child's road safety education.