



# Tips to Increase Your Child's Pedestrian Safety



Most young children who are hit by motor vehicles are injured near their home or on neighborhood streets.

## Why Children Are Vulnerable

- They often act before thinking.
- They often make the mistake of thinking that if they can see a driver, the driver can see them.
- They can't judge speed or the distance of vehicles moving toward them.
- They think cars can stop instantly.
- They're difficult to see when behind a backing vehicle.

## Child Pedestrian Safety Tips for Parents

- Young children should be introduced to basic safety principles (look left-right-left for traffic) and simple explanations. Model these correct behaviors as part of your day-to-day activities, and point out correct and incorrect pedestrian safety behaviors. This will lay the foundation for them to think safety and apply safe behavior to their own actions.
- Supervise your children constantly - especially when they're near parked or moving vehicles, or playing near streets or driveways.
- Hold your child's hand when crossing streets, walking along streets and in parking lots
- Show your child how to walk facing traffic when there's no sidewalk.





- Demonstrate how to cross the street by stopping at the curb or street's edge and looking left-right-left for traffic before crossing.
- Children age 10 and under do not have the skill sets to manage traffic situations by themselves. They must be supervised closely by an adult or young adult.
- Set a good, safe example when walking on streets or sidewalks and when crossing roads.



A TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM