

What you can DO ... as a Parent

Don't overestimate your children's abilities

- ⦿ Children are small and it is harder for them to see traffic and be seen by drivers
- ⦿ They cannot judge speed, distance or direction well
- ⦿ If they see a car, children think the driver sees them
- ⦿ Children are impulsive, especially when at play

Protect your children outside

- ⦿ A responsible adult needs to be with young children at all times when they are outside
- ⦿ Always hold a child's hand when crossing a street
- ⦿ Do not rely on older children to watch younger children; they, too, can become distracted and could leave your child at risk of being hit by a car
- ⦿ **Never allow a child under the age of 8 to cross streets alone**

Protect By example

- ⦿ Do not cross between parked cars—Children learn from watching what adults do
- ⦿ Use signals correctly—walk only on the green “Walk” signal
- ⦿ Walk with your child and explain traffic safety rules

Get involved with your school

- ⦿ Participate in the **International Walk to School Day** during the first week of October. *(Learn more about this event at www.cawalktoschool.com)*
- ⦿ Walk with your child and plan together a safe route for your child's walk to school. *(The Santa Ana Unified School District provides “Suggested Routes to School” maps for parents)*
- ⦿ Form a “**Walking School Bus**” or join the volunteer crossing guard program. *(Learn more about these and other ways to get involved at www.dhs.ca.gov/route2school)*

Remember

- ⦿ Children are not small adults and cannot be responsible for their own traffic safety
- ⦿ Find safe areas for your children to play, away from cars
- ⦿ Do not rush children to school. Take the time to walk, drive and park safely.

***Kids and cars don't mix!
Be aware. Teach your children and keep them safe.***

