

RULES FOR STUDENTS RIDING SCHOOL BUSES

1. Pupils shall arrive at their designated bus stop before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
2. Pupils must wait in a location clear of traffic and keep off private property.
3. Behavior at the bus stop must not threaten life, limb or property of any individual.
4. Upon boarding the bus, pupils must go directly to an available or assigned seat.
5. Pupils must remain seated, keeping aisles and exits clear.
6. Pupils must observe classroom conduct and obey the driver promptly and respectfully. Noise must be kept to a minimum. Quiet conversation is permitted.
7. Pupils must not use profane language.
8. Pupils must not eat or drink on the bus except as required for medical reasons.
9. Pupils must not have weapons on the bus.
10. Pupils must not have alcohol, drugs or tobacco in their possession on the bus, except for prescription medication required for a student.
11. Pupils must not throw or pass objects on, from, or into the bus.
12. Pupils may carry on the bus only objects that can be held in their laps. Animals are not permitted on the bus.
13. Pupils must leave or board the bus at locations to which they have been assigned unless they have parental and administrative authorization to do otherwise.
14. Pupils must not put head or arms out of the bus windows.
15. Guidelines will be formulated for the use and storage of equipment and other means of assistance required by preschool and special needs children.
16. Driver and bus aides must have access to appropriate information about the child to the degree that such information might affect safe transportation and medical well-being. This information must be available in the vehicle or readily accessible in the transportation office. All such information is strictly confidential.

PARENTS: IMPORTANT SCHOOL BUS SAFETY ALERT

HELP US PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN AS THEY TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Certain types of children's clothing can create a hazard as your child gets off the school bus. Especially dangerous are:

- *Long, dangling jacket or sweatshirt drawstrings*
 - *Long backpack straps*
 - *Long scarves or other loose clothing*

Such clothing can be caught in the bus handrail door, or other equipment as the child gets off the bus.

In recent years, a number of children across the U.S. have had their clothing caught as they exited the bus. Several of these children were dragged by the bus and then killed when the bus ran over them.

Please take the time to check your children's clothing to make sure it is safe.

Also, please talk with your child about the following safety rules:

- *Stay away from the Danger Zones around the bus.*
- *Don't try to pick up something dropped near the bus the bus driver might not see you.*
- *Remember that other motorists don't always stop for a stopped school bus - use extreme caution whenever getting on or off the bus.*

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY IS A TEAM EFFORT - NOTHING IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN A CHILD'S LIFE.

WARNING

Drawstrings Can Catch on Objects and Strangle Your Child

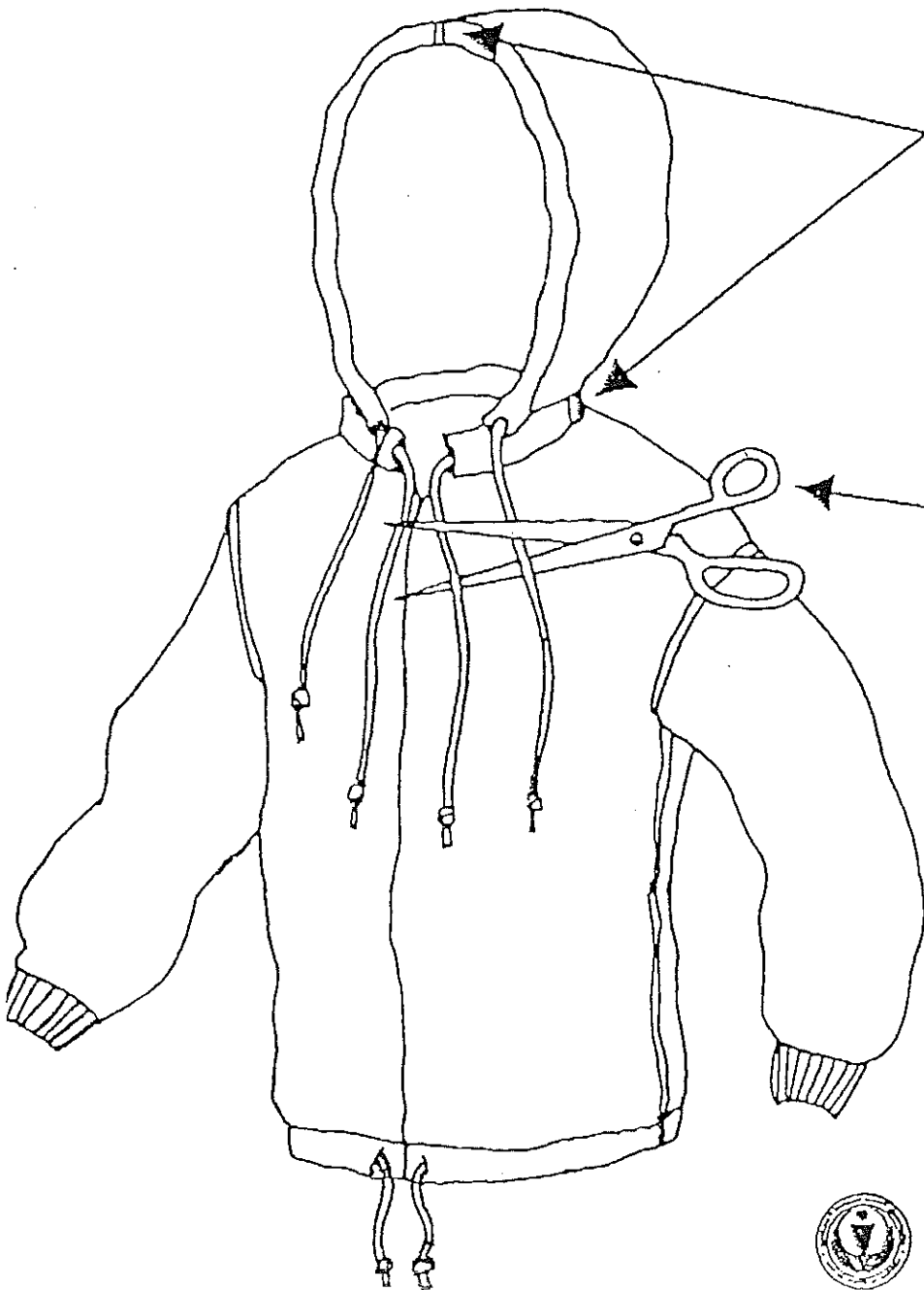
1. REMOVE drawstrings immediately.

OR

2. SEW a seam through the drawstrings at the middle of the hood and neck, so neither end can pull out and catch onto an object.

AND

CUT all string ends as short as needed to close the garment.



U.S. Consumer Product
Safety Commission

THREE IMPORTANT BICYCLING SKILLS

Everyone should learn the following skills.

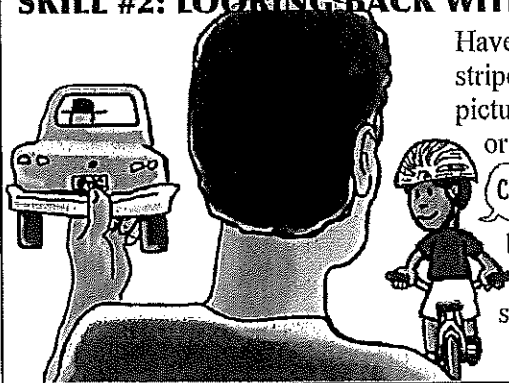
SKILL #1: RIDING A STRAIGHT LINE



This skill is basic, but very important. Take your child to a park, playground or empty parking lot for practice and find a straight paint stripe on the pavement. Have your child practice riding on the stripe without veering to one side or another. It may take some practice, but your child will get better at it each time he or she tries, and that's good!

Tip: To ride straight, don't look down at the stripe. Look ahead to where you're going!

SKILL #2: LOOKING BACK WITHOUT SWERVING

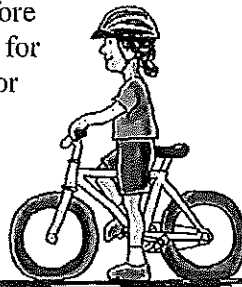


Have your child ride the same stripe while you hold a cardboard picture of a motor vehicle. As he or she rides past, hold the "motor vehicle" up or hide it behind your back and say "LOOK!" Your child should look back and say "CAR!" or "NO CAR!"

SKILL #3: STOPPING AND SPEED CONTROL

On the playground, have your child practice riding slowly toward a wet sponge and stopping just before hitting it. Gradually increase the speed and watch for skidding (not good). As your child speeds up, he or she will need to start using the brakes sooner.

Tip: Going downhill, a bicyclist should brake gently and often to keep from going too fast and losing control. Stick to level ground until your child is ready for a bike with hand brakes.



RIDING AFTER DARK

Some serious crashes happen when it's dark. Example: a motorist comes up from behind and hits a bicyclist. These crashes often involve higher motor vehicle speeds and make up about 25% of all fatal motor vehicle/bike collisions.

Rule out riding after dark for your youngster. It requires special skills and equipment that few kids have. If your child gets caught out after dark, he or she should call you for a ride home. *For more info on riding at night, contact your local bicycle club or bike shop.*

WHAT ABOUT HELMETS?



In a word: **YES!** Your child should use one every time he or she rides. Helmets can prevent head injuries and save lives. And about 75% of all bicyclists killed each year die from head injuries. Many more are injured seriously.

The cost (\$20 to \$30) is small, compared to the medical bills and grief caused by a head injury.

Go with a "CPSC-approved" helmet; there are many available in different styles and colors.

THREE IMPORTANT TIPS

1. Let your child pick out his or her helmet.
2. Follow the helmet instructions for a proper fit.
3. Wear one yourself!

This brochure was developed by the Active Living Resource Center, a program supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Additional materials for child education and making your neighborhood more bicycle friendly and walkable are available through the ALRC at: www.activelivingresources.org.



TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR
HENRY GUZMÁN, DIRECTOR

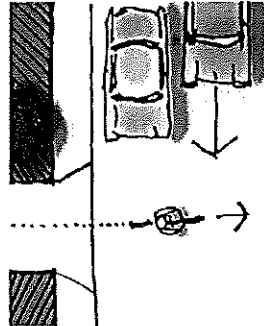
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THREE COMMON BIKE/MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES

The following are the most common crashes for young children. Each one can lead to serious injury.

CRASH TYPE #1: THE DRIVEWAY RIDE-OUT

About 8% of motor vehicle/bike crashes involve a child riding out of a driveway and being hit by a motor vehicle. The average bicyclist age is less than 10 years of age.



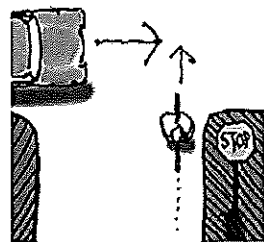
What to do: If bushes or trees block the view, trim them back. And teach your child these safety rules:

1. Stop before entering the street.
2. Parked motor vehicles block the view? Edge out to see beyond.
3. Look left, right, and left for motor vehicles.
4. See any? Wait until it's clear.
5. No motor vehicles? Cross with care.



CRASH TYPE #2: RUNNING A STOP SIGN

One motor vehicle/bike crash in ten involves a bicyclist running a stop sign. The average age is about 11. *Tip: If you "roll" stop signs, your child will learn your bad habit.*

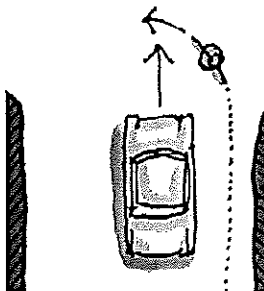


What to do: Teach your child that running stop signs could lead to a bad crash. Take him or her to a stop sign near home. Emphasize the following:

1. Stop at all stop signs.
2. Look left, right, and left for motor vehicles.
3. See any? Wait until it's clear.
4. No motor vehicles? Cross with care.
5. And *never* run a stop sign even if a friend just did so.

CRASH TYPE #3: THE "NO LOOK" LEFT TURN

In 10% of crashes, bicyclists turned left without looking back for traffic. Had they looked, they would have seen the motor vehicles coming and likely waited until it was clear.



What to do: Teach your child to walk across busy streets. On quiet streets, a child of 9 or 10 can be taught to turn safely:

1. Look back.
2. Yield to traffic coming from behind.
3. Yield to traffic in front or to the side.
4. Signal before moving or turning left.
5. Confused or worried? Pull to the curb and walk your bike in the crosswalk.



SERIOUS CRASHES ARE RARE

It's important to teach your child how to bicycle safely and avoid crashes. But serious bicycling crashes are rare, and the "heart healthy" benefits of bicycling far outweigh the risks.

America's childhood obesity epidemic will kill many times more kids than bicycling will. By teaching your child safe bicycling, you not only help prevent

crashes, but you start him or her on the path to an active and fun life. And by bicycling *with* your child, you too can benefit from the exercise.

A good idea: Contact your local bicycle club or recreation department and find out what opportunities they have for kids to learn — and enjoy — bicycling.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR SIGNALS?

Here they are!

