

**Our schools have more than
97,000 students.**

You are a very important one.

**While you are on your way to
school, thousands of cars
jam the streets.**

*Each of these cars weighs
more than a ton.
You don't.*

*They can go 25 miles an hour
or much faster.
You can't.*

*They sometimes run into things.
So do you.*

*And streets are hard.
You're not.*

*Whatever cars hit in the street
usually gets hurt--other cars,
pets, and children.
Don't let it be you.*

**Here are some tips you can
use to protect yourself.**

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Before you cross any street . . . think!

Think about these eight steps to get to the other side safely:

1. Never cross in the middle of the block

- Cross only at the corner where drivers can see you.
- If someone drops you off across the street from school always walk to the corner to cross.
- If a car stops to let you cross in the middle of the block, don't do it. Another car may hit you.
- Even if you're late to school, don't take a shortcut.

2. Look and wait

- Look for cars.
- Look both ways.
- Watch for cars turning the corner.
- Look both ways again.
- Wait until it is clear to cross.

3. See and be seen

- If cars are waiting for you to cross the street, make sure the drivers see you. To be safe, your eyes should meet their eyes before you cross the street.
- Wear some white or light-colored clothing. (Your school uniform is fine.)

4. Obey traffic signals, signs and crossing guards.

- If there is a stop signal, walk only when the walk signal says "Walk" and the light is green.
- If there is a crossing guard, walk quickly when the guard says it's safe to cross.
- If there is a stop sign, wait until all the cars have passed.
- If there is a crosswalk, walk between the lines.
- If there is no stop sign, stop signal, crossing guard or crosswalk, you need to be extra careful.

5. Always walk along the safest route to school.

Cross streets at the safest corners. Your school sends home a safe route map to show you the way. Follow the arrows on the map and walk that route to school.

6. Watch out for speeders.

If you see a car going too fast or driving dangerously near children, try to remember the license number and tell an adult.

7. Never chase a ball, a pet, anyone or anything into the street.

Always stop, think and look first so you don't walk into an accident!

8. Remember, crossing the street can be dangerous.

Cars are bigger and heavier and faster than you are. If you get hit, you'll get hurt. Follow these tips to see, to be seen and to be safe.

