

# School Bus Stop Safety



## Children and Bus Stops

### What to expect from young children

- Children under the age of 10 are generally not able to make good decisions about their safety
- Most injuries occur because children dart out into the street to catch the bus
- Children play at bus stops, and are often distracted. It is important for drivers to stop on BOTH sides of the road when school bus lights are flashing
- Children cannot judge speed, direction or distance very well
- Children are small. It is harder for them to see traffic and for drivers to see them — especially at bus stops

### Bus Stop Safety checklist

1. Provide your child with a colorful backpack. Loose papers or other items are dangerous as children get on and off the bus. Remove string from hooded shirts
2. Make sure your child arrives at the bus stop five minutes early each day. Children who are late for the bus may panic and chase it, or run into the road
3. Do not expect older children to watch younger children. A responsible adult needs to be with a young child under 10
4. When the bus arrives, your child should wait for the bus driver's signal before boarding. Children should board in single file



### Did you know....

...in the U.S., more children are injured at the bus stop than on the bus itself *(Public Traffic Safety Institute)*

### Did you know....

...nearly 1/4 of the accidents occur when children are boarding or leaving the school buses

### Did you know....

...that most accidents are preventable when schools and the community work together!

**If anything makes your child feel unsafe at the bus stop or on the bus ride, please contact your local school or police rather than trying to discuss it at the bus stop.**



To obtain ore information visit:  
Pupil Transportation Safety Institute  
[www.ptsi.org/downloads.html](http://www.ptsi.org/downloads.html)

National Safe Routes to School  
[www.saferoutesinfo.org](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org)

