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## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN AND AROUND THE SCHOOL BUS

**While the school bus is the safest way to travel to and from school, children still need to be careful as they get on and off the bus. Obstructed views and distracted drivers put children at risk. It's important that parents teach them ways they can stay safe in and around the school bus.**

- Show children how and when to stay at a safe distance.
- Younger children should be supervised at the bus stop.
- Children who rush are particularly vulnerable, so make sure to get to the bus stop early.
- Show children how to stay three giant steps away from the road until the school bus comes to a complete stop and the door opens.
- Children should never walk behind the school bus.
- Children who cross in front of the school bus should stay at least five giant steps (10 feet) away from it and make sure that the bus driver sees them before they step off the curb.
- Teach children to wait until no cars are coming from either direction before they cross the street.
- Make eye contact with the driver and wait for the OK signal to cross the road.
- Explain to children why conversations and play time should wait until they are safely seated, or safely away from the school bus.
- Children should use handrails when getting on and off the school bus and secure any loose or hanging objects, like straps or drawstrings.
- If a child drops something outside the school bus, tell them to NEVER try to pick it up. They should always tell the driver and wait for his or her instructions.

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***It's estimated that over  
10 million drivers illegally pass  
school buses every year.***

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- Children should not yell while riding the school bus. The bus driver needs to be able to hear other vehicles on the road.
- Share information about how to help keep children safe, in and around the school bus, from [schoolbusfacts.com](http://schoolbusfacts.com)