



School Bus Rider's Guide

Safety Tips for Grades 4 - 6



You're an experienced school bus rider, and you've heard all about how to behave when you ride. But, did you ever think that you might be able to help the younger children on the bus?

As a veteran school bus rider, you can set a good example for younger children by obeying the driver and paying attention to tips on safety.

Do **YOU** remember those safety rules?



Time for School

Don't miss the bus. Give yourself plenty of time to reach the bus stop. Leave your home about five minutes early. Walk, don't run.

Walk safely. Stay on the sidewalks or, if there are none, walk on the left side of the road facing oncoming traffic. Cross streets only at intersections or crosswalks.

Waiting

No horseplay. Running around and playing is okay for the playground, but not the bus stop. Stay out of the street while you wait for the bus. Traffic often is heavy in the morning, and you could be hit by a car or cause an accident if a car is forced to stop quickly for you.

Respect property. Don't run across people's yards, climb their trees, or go into their garages. Stay at the bus stop.

Sshh! People in the neighborhood may still be sleeping when you leave for school, so try to keep down the noise. After all, you don't like to be disturbed when you are tired, so be considerate. Let others sleep.



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Boarding the Bus

Form a line. Don't push or shove. If you have to cross the street while the bus is stopped, cross carefully. Even though motorists are supposed to stop for a school bus, they often don't and you could get hurt.

Move along. Step quickly and use the handrail when you are entering or leaving the bus. Watch your step.

Sit down. Go directly to your seat and sit down. Don't wait for a friend to get on before you take a seat.



The Ride

Be quiet. The driver needs your help and he may have trouble concentrating if there is too much noise or movement in the bus. Stay in your seat.

Keep the aisles clear. Nothing... books, bags, legs arms or bodies... should block the aisle. Do not stand in the aisle. If the driver is forced to make a quick stop, you could hurt yourself and others.

Everything inside. If the driver lets you open the windows, keep your hands, arms and head inside. Don't throw things out of the windows.

No pets allowed. Animals, including pets on leashes, in boxes or in cages are not allowed on the bus.

Share your seat. Don't save a spot for a friend, but keep the seat open for anyone who wants to sit down. You'll have plenty of time to talk to your friends once you get to school.



Attention: Playing with your friends is not safe when riding the bus.

Getting Off

Be organized. Be ready to leave when you reach your stop. Don't keep the driver and the other bus riders waiting while you gather up your books and other belongings.

Stay put. Wait until the bus has stopped completely before you get up from your seat. And always let the people in the front get off first.

Don't push. You'll get out faster if no one shoves or pushes. Also, chances are better no one will trip and fall, causing delays.

Leave immediately. After you get off the bus, leave the area quickly so that you are out of the way of the bus and other traffic.

Stay clear. Keep away from the side of the bus. If you must cross the street, cross in front of the bus. But wait for an "all clear" signal from the driver before you leave the curb. Look both ways before crossing.



It's Up to You!

If an emergency situation arises, you can help by staying calm. Listen to the driver and follow instructions. Help the driver by getting the smaller children off safely. Remember... because you're older... younger children are watching you. Set a good example, and help to take charge of the smaller children. You can teach them how to be good bus riders.