# SIDEWALK SMARTS PEDESTRIAN SKILLS



Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region



# **PASSPORT**

a skills checklist for family use

### Using this passport

People reach road readiness at different ages. You can use this passport with your family or caregivers to practice skills together and to track your learning until you are road-ready.

Check off the skills as you can explain them, can perform them, and remember to do them all the time. Then, have your family or caregivers colour in the accomplishment stamp when the whole page is complete. When the book is done, they can add a date of issue and their initials to the ID page to confirm your road readiness!

### Tell your family/caregivers about these lessons

- · I pay attention to what is going on around me
- · I make decisions for myself
- · I stop, look, listen, and think
- · I make my intentions known to others
- · I keep looking and listening as I cross

### Tell them what you can wear for greater safety

- · Bright or reflective colours to be seen by others
- · Weather-appropriate clothing and footwear
- · Properly fastened shoes or boots
- · Ensure that hoods or hats do not block vision

# Waterloo Region Pedestrian ID

	Name	
	School	
	Date of birth	
Me	Date of Issue	Adult initials

### **Sidewalks and Trails**

Task	Can Explain	Can do	Always does
Walk on the sidewalk, even if it is only on one side of the road			
Walk on the inner 3/4 of the sidewalk			
Walk on the road facing traffic when there are no sidewalks			
Walk to the right on a multi-use path to allow faster pedestrians and cyclists to pass on the left			



# **Stop Signs**

Task	Can Explain	Can do	Always does
At 4-way stops, ensure vehicles on all four sides have stopped			
At 1- and 2-way stops, ensure vehicles with stop signs have stopped - yield to all other vehicles			
Try to make eye contact with drivers			
Keep looking and listening while crossing			



# **Traffic Lights**

Task	Can Explain	Can do	Always does
Stop and look left, right, left, AND behind before starting to cross			
Try to make eye contact with driver			
Do not start crossing if the orange hand is flashing			
If the orange hand is flashing while crossing, continue at a quick but safe pace			
Keep looking and listening while crossing  Skill accomplished!			

### **Crosswalks and Crossovers**

Note: pedestrians don't always have the right of way

Task	Can Explain	Can do	Always does
Stand on platform, prepared to cross			
Push button if there is one			
Wait for cars to stop behind "shark's teeth" or yield line in both directions			
Keep looking and listening while crossing			



# **Midblock Crossings**

Task	Can Explain	Can do	Always does
Look for a safer crossing first, if there is one, use it			
Move to a spot where you can see better (no objects like bushes or snow piles block your view)			
Move to a spot where you can be seen better by drivers and cyclists (understand how curves and objects block a driver's view)			
Look for space on other side of road before starting to cross			

# **Midblock Crossings**

Task	Can Explain	Can do	Always does
Check parked cars thoroughly for brake lights or drivers indicating vehicle could move			
Move around parked cars carefully (use large spaces between parked cars and poke head out to look both ways before crossing)			
Find an adequate gap in traffic (enough time between passing cars to cross without running)			
Keep looking and listening while crossing			

Skill accomplished!

# **Pedestrian Refuge Islands**

Task	¦ Can ¡Explain	Can do	Always does
From side of road, make sure cars coming from the left are stopped before crossing			
From concrete island, make sure cars coming from the right are stopped before crossing			
Make intention to cross very clear (step onto platform, hold out arm and point if necessary)			
If traveling with a group, do not cross until there is enough room on the island			
Keep looking and listening while crossing			

# **Roundabouts**

Task	Can Explain	Can do	Always does
Stand on platform prepared to	, L		
Never cross a roundabout by walking over the central island			
Wait for cars to stop behind "shark's teeth" or for an adequate gap in traffic			
If there is a concrete island, stop and make sure cars from the right are stopped before crossing			
Keep looking and listening while crossing	Skill accomplis	hed!	
	*		

### **Rail Tracks**

Task	¦ Can ¡Explain	Can do	Always does
Wait for trains blocking the crossing (do not try to go around or between train cars)			
Obey warning lights and stop arms			
Stay out of tunnels meant for trains			
Do not walk along or beside the tracks			
Look carefully because electric trains are very quiet			



# **Parking Lot Entrances**

Task	Can Explain	Can do	Always does
Look into the parking lot, across the road, and both ways on the road before crossing			
Wait for an adequate gap (enough time to cross without running)			
Stay visible by walking upright (make yourself big!) and walk steady			
Keep looking and listening while crossing			



### **Traffic Device Word Match**

Connect the sign to the words that describe it



School Area Sign



Walk Signal



Pedestrian Crossover Sign



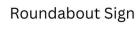
Stop Sign



Yield Sign



Traffic Signal



### Sidewalk Smarts

**Sidewalk Smarts** is an instructional program delivered to grade 3 and 4 students that introduces complex road safety concepts and pedestrian skills.

### The Sidewalk Smarts curriculum was developed by:

Canadian Cancer Society Walking School Bus Program Cycling Into the Future

Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services

Region of Waterloo Road Safety Education Program Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region Waterloo Regional Block Parent Program Waterloo Region Children's Safety Village

For more information, contact STSWR 519-744-7575

The Sidewalk Smarts program is funded by:
Waterloo Catholic District School Board,
Waterloo Region District School Board,
Region of Waterloo, City of Cambridge,
City of Kitchener, and City of Waterloo





To find more family resources to support active school travel, see

www.stswr.ca/walkzone/family resources

