



Introduction

This programme focuses on road safety. Children from St Therese Nursery School learn to cross the road using the Green Cross Code. They learn about the importance of wearing a seatbelt when in a car and wearing a helmet when riding a bicycle. We see the children wearing their helmets and riding their bicycles safely.

The Hurley Burley Man talks about the importance of having the Hurley Burley Van in good order before going out on the road. He reads a story about a puppy called Topper going on his first walk and sings a song about safety on the roads.

Learning Opportunities

The Arts

- Create pictures and models using a range of materials e.g. paint, crayons, scrap materials and artefacts
- Listen to sounds in the environment
- Experiment with musical instruments to make traffic sounds
- Take part in role play e.g. acting out crossing the road

Language Development

- Understand and use language associated with road safety e.g. in role play
- Listen to and follow instructions
- Listen to and join in with stories, rhymes and songs
- Look at information and story books

Early Mathematical Experiences

- Explore space eg. when riding bicycles
- Talk about the shapes of vehicles eg. using language such as long, wide, curved sides, tall, small
- Count the number of wheels on different vehicles during play

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Understand the importance of wearing appropriate clothing e.g. helmets, reflective clothing, waterproofs
- Show respect for others e.g. when riding bicycles
- Learn to take turns and share

Physical Development and Movement

- Physical skills of moving, e.g. running, walking, peddling (slowly, quickly)
- Fine motor skills e.g. fastening helmets and coats, painting, modelling drawing, cutting, sticking

The World Around Us

- Explore how things move e.g. wheels, pedals, gears, brakes
- Talk about safety on the roads e.g. importance of using the Green Cross Code when crossing the road, wearing a seatbelt and helmet, staying with an adult
- Explore safety issues e.g. by playing with simple floor mats and small vehicles

Suggested Activities

- Make a tape of traffic noise to use as background for stories where children can identify sounds. (There are several transport tapes available now for identifying vehicle sounds which can also be used for lotto and memory games).
- Set up a zebra crossing in the classroom. Encourage the children to stop, look and listen when using the crossing e.g. during role play.
- Set up a "road" in a defined area outdoors and encourage the children to use it to ride bicycles/scooters/peddle cars safely
- Invite your local Road Safety Officer to visit your setting to talk to the children
- See if visits can also be arranged with the Fire Service, PSNI and the Ambulance Authority. (Although they are all very busy they all have education officers who might like to come along and reinforce the road safety message).

- Gather together a range of small vehicles e.g. cars, lorries, trucks and a floor mat. Encourage the children to use these to explore safety issues. (These can also be used to illustrate stories, rhymes and songs).
- Encourage the children to make patterns in play dough or clay with car wheels. Compare size, width design etc.
- Provide a range of information and story books about transport. Use these to enhance the theme and provide talking points.
- Talk about the different colours of cars. Ask the children which is their favourite colour of car.
- Make traffic light buns. Decorate sponge buns with icing and bits of green, yellow and red glace cherry.
- Help the children make a wall display of a road or town scene. They can make the vehicles and houses with scrap materials. The finished frieze will provide many opportunities for stories and class discussion about roles, travel and people who help us.