

Disclaimer: Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies or choking. Children must always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials must always be appropriate for children's age and stage of development.

Road safety: Stop, look, listen and think before you cross the road

Brake Zebra's Beep Beep! Day is a great time to support children and families with how to keep themselves safe whilst using the roads and this year (2023) celebrates with Timmy Time.

As Timmy and his friends head off to Nursery, they have lots to learn about the important things in life, including caring for other people and doing 'the right thing'.

For more details about this year's road safety campaign and resources for 2-7 year olds visit [Brake's website](#).



Learning aims

- To develop children's awareness of road safety when crossing the road
- To introduce and practice new vocabulary
- To develop children's physical skills
- To use mathematical language – first, next etc.

Resources

- Road Crossing - you can use whatever you have available (inside and out) to create your own nursery 'road' for children to act out the rhyme and actions. Here are some ideas:
 - Long strips of material to create your road. Use boxes to add cars and traffic or you can have moving people (children or adults) to represent moving traffic
 - Sheets of paper or card with painted white lines and double yellow lines etc.
 - Outdoors - chalk to map out your road using bikes, scooters etc. for the traffic.

Activity outline

1. 'Stop, look, listen and think' rhyme
2. Teach children the stop, look, listen and think rhyme with actions. Use this on any walks, trips or outings that you take children on and encourage them to use this every time they cross a road.
3. Rhyme lyrics:
 - Stop, look, listen and think,
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- Stop, look, listen and think,
 - Before you cross the road.
4. Actions:
- Stop: Both hands out in front
 - Look: Both index fingers pointing at the side of both eyes
 - Listen: Cup both ears with both hands
 - Think: Place both hands on the top of the head
 - Before you cross the road: 2 fingers 'walking' up the opposite forearm.
5. Once children are familiar with the rhyme and actions create your own road so the children can practice at the 'roadside'
6. Encourage children to think about the rhyme and the actions that come first, next etc. 'Stop' at the roadside to look left and right several times, 'listen' to identify if they can hear any vehicles coming and then to think if it is 'safe to cross'. The children should do all this while they are still standing still, looking and listening, then they can safely cross the road
7. Talk to children about finding safe spaces to cross the road e.g. using pelican crossings and not crossing between parked cars as they wouldn't be able to 'look' safely
8. Share the rhyme with parents and encourage them to use the rhyme when walking near roads with their child.

Extension ideas

- Talk to children about being 'visible' when crossing the road, especially on dark winter mornings or evenings. Find ways that children and adults can be 'seen' in the dark by exploring reflective materials.