# Child Safety Starts With You



#Actl ikelt



#### For the Love of Children

Children under the age of 10 should always walk and bike with adults. Because they have a narrow field of vision, lack depth perception, and have difficulty determining the direction of sound, they should never cross a street alone. As your young child walks or bikes with you, tell them about the safety measures you are using. Words have greater meaning when there is action involved.

#### **Vision**

Children see what is right in front of them. They lack depth perception and have not learned to look past what they see.

Teach your child to stop at intersections and look down the road for moving vehicles.

### Go Beyond Left, Right, Left

As children look down the road for moving vehicles, teach them to look in all directions. Start with left, right, left, then forward and behind. If they see any moving traffic, they are to wait for the vehicles to stop.

#### **Eye Contact**

Children tend to think if they see a vehicle, the driver sees them. That is not true. When your child sees a moving vehicle, teach them to wait for it to stop. Teach them to make eye contact with the driver and wait for the driver to wave them through.

Your child's first and most important teacher is you. Whether you intend to teach them or not, each and every day they are watching and learning from you.

So it is important to ask the question, "Are they learning what you want them to know?"



## **Continue Looking**

Once a child begins to cross the street, it is important they continue to look for moving vehicles. A child should never assume a moving vehicle will stop for them even if they are in a crosswalk. It is important the child always stop for a moving vehicle. Once the vehicle is stopped they may continue walking.