

## Driveway Safety Lesson

# CHECK FOR ME BEFORE YOU TURN THE KEY



Curriculum level:  
**Suitable for levels 1-3** (Years 1-6).

Learning Areas:  
**Health and Physical Education.**

Learning area:  
**Personal Health and Safety and Healthy Communities and Environments.**

Video resource: <http://bit.ly/DrivewaySafety>

### Teacher background – Driveway Run Over.

On average, 5 children are killed each year after being run over in a driveway in NZ. Every two weeks a child is hospitalised with serious injuries received the same way.

Most children injured are toddlers, and the driver is usually a parent, close family member or neighbour. The devastating impact of these events on families cannot be overstated. This unit for Years 1-6 students is designed to raise awareness about the driveway run over injury issue through the discovery of simple preventative measures that students can take home to their families.

### Objective for students.

- Identify the dangers students and younger children face when playing on driveways.
- Group discussion on safe practices and behaviours that they and their families can take to ensure young children are not put in danger from 'driveway run overs.'
- Students share important messages with their families and friends at home.



### Tuning in to Driveway Dangers.

- Have any of the students ever been told by parents not to play on the driveway?  
**Why?**
- Can they think of what could happen when they play on a driveway?  
**Discuss and list.**
- Did students know that 5 children are killed in driveways every year?  
**How do they think this could have happened?**
- Why do they think that most of the children run over are aged between 1 and 3 years old?
- Play this 60 second video in the class:  
<http://bit.ly/1E3VV57>.

### What can students do to help?

Introduce the idea that students can help create awareness by taking home driveway safety messages to their family and neighbours. Can students think of ways they can do this?

#### Some ideas are:

- Make a poster using the 'CHECK FOR ME BEFORE YOU TURN THE KEY' slogan and post it in school bulletin boards.
- Like Safekids Aotearoa's Facebook page and share driveway safety posts and messages in the school Facebook page, newsletter and website.
- Invite parents and relatives to class and present a driveway safety demonstration (watch this video on how <http://bit.ly/1E43l2C>). You can also borrow a driveway safety kit, email [info@safekids.nz](mailto:info@safekids.nz).

### Share any experiences and discuss:

- The driver checking the mirrors and the window.  
**Did he see the child? Answer is no.**
- Why did the driver not see the young child?  
**e.g. she was too small or it was hard to see from inside the car?**
- The idea of a 'blind zone' where a driver cannot see a small child.  
**Longer at the back but also at the front and sides of a car.**
- What could the driver have done to prevent this?  
**Answer: Get out, walk and check for their child around the car.**
- What could the child have done to prevent this?  
**Answer: Not play on the driveway.**

- Order free '**CHECK FOR ME BEFORE YOU TURN THE KEY**' car keyrings from Safekids Aotearoa. Give one to each student (you can print a photo of the student and place it in the keyring) and ask students to give it to their parents as a gift.

For more information visit [www.safekids.nz](http://www.safekids.nz)



Email [info@safekids.nz](mailto:info@safekids.nz) to order your FREE keyrings.