

Driveway Safety Lesson

CHECK FOR ME BEFORE YOU TURN THE KEY



TeWharikiCurriculumLevels

Suitable for age levels: 3-5yrs

Te Whariki strands

Well-being – Mana Atua

Belonging – Mana Whenua

Exploration – Mana Aoturoa

Videoresource: <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 young children, 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 3-5 year-old children is designed to raise their awareness about the dangers of 'driveway run overs' and the simple preventative measures that children can take to help keep themselves safe.

Objectives for students.

- Become aware of the dangers that they as young children face when playing on driveways.
- Through discussion and activities, the children will identify and put into action, practices and behaviours that they and their families can take to ensure they are not put in danger from 'driveway run overs.'
- The children will share and discuss these important messages with their families and friends.



Tuning in to Driveway Dangers.

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

What can children do to help?

Introduce the children to the idea that there are things that they can do to keep themselves safe from 'driveway runovers.' Encourage them to come up with a list of actions they can take to keep themselves safe. Have the children paint pictures of themselves playing in safe areas at home. Display with safety slogans.

Some ideas are:

- Build a Lego® house, garden and driveway with a toy car in it. Have children put green flags on areas where it is safe to play and red flags for dangerous areas.
- Take a 'safety walk' to children's nearby homes. Have them identify the places where it would be safe for them to play. Can they say why these areas are safe?
- 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**.

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 child. (You can print a photo of the child and place it in the keyring) and ask children to give it to their parents/carers as a gift.

For more information visit www.safekids.nz



Email info@safekids.nz to order your FREE keyrings.