

Getting There Safely

Created By	Grades	Subjects	Duration
Chloe Machula - Wisconsin Bike Fed	2nd-5th	Social Studies, Science, Math	40-60 minutes

Lesson Overview

Essential Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What affects how people get around?• What makes a route safe or unsafe?• How does transportation affect our lives?• How does available space affect transportation?
Learning Outcomes	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name the pluses and minuses of different modes of transportation• Think about challenges of designing transit systems• Brainstorm reasons why people choose different kinds of transportation
Summary	This lesson explores different transit systems and helps students understand why transit systems are built the way they are. Students will also explore what makes routes

Instructions

Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● What are different modes of transportation people use?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Write these ideas down where they can be seen by all students● What are the pros and cons of these kinds of transportation?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Pick a few modes of transportation and have the group brainstorm pros and cons of each● Note: The above two points can be eliminated if you have already done an introductory lesson to modes of transportation.● What makes transportation safer or less safe? Who is it more or less safe for? Brainstorm answers with the group. Examples:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Amount of vehicles on the road○ How fast vehicles move○ Accessibility of walking and biking paths○ Safe or unsafe places to cross roads○ How much people are paying attention○ Others● One of the things that affects how people get around is space. In Madison, space is limited because of the lakes, so transportation planners sometimes have to get creative because you can't just add more roads, bike paths, or bus lanes due to limited space.
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Materials needed per student or per small group:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Printed sheet of city outline with school and highway, or a blank sheet of paper.○ Printed parts of the city- either set aside time for students to cut or pre-cut pieces○ Adjust the amount of road, bike path, and sidewalk pieces to make it more challenging or I○ Glue or tape● Tell the students their job is to make a map of a town where as many kids as possible can get to school, the grocery store, and one fun place safely and using active transportation.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Assume there is at least one kid in each house or apartment building on their map.● You don't have room for everything, so you'll have to make some choices.● There is already a school and one busy street that you can't change.● A few items MUST be included (can be adjusted as needed):<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ At least 5 houses and 1 apartment building○ At least 2 different types of transportation options○ A grocery store○ At least 3 fun places○ Anything else you think a city HAS to have● Warn students they may not want to glue anything down until they know that's where they want it.
Debrief	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● What worked well?● What was difficult?● What did you want to include but couldn't?● Are there places that ended up being easier or more difficult to live? To get to?● Why did certain things end up close to or far from where people live?

Materials

[Getting There Safely Handout.pdf](#) - one per small group

Scissors

Glue or Tape