

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, a child's greatest risk is not in riding a school bus, but in getting to the bus and entering and leaving it. Below are some safety steps to teach children how to be safe in and around school buses.



Have your children put everything they have to carry in a **backpack or school bag** so they won't drop things along the way.



If it is raining, have your children wear **raincoats** that are colored something **other than yellow** so they won't blend in with the school bus.



Make sure your children **leave home on time** so they can walk to the bus stop and arrive before the bus is due. Running can be dangerous.



Go to the bus stop with a young child and have older children **walk in groups.**



There is safety in numbers because groups are easier for bus drivers to see.



Make sure your children stand **at least 10 feet** (five giant steps) from the road while waiting for the school bus. Have younger children practice taking five giant steps to become familiar with 10 feet.



Warn your children that, if they drop something near the bus, they should *never* pick it up. Instead, they should **tell the driver** and follow the driver's instructions.



Teach your children to **secure loose** drawstrings, scarves, loose fitting or baggy clothing, and other **objects** that could get caught in the handrail or the door of the school bus as they are exiting.

