

Lesson Two: Sidewalk Safety

Objectives: Learning about and role-playing traffic safety help children develop and improve creative thinking and problem-solving skills and life skills.



Materials: Pictures of a traffic light, stop sign, and crosswalk sign, 1 large red and 1 large green circles, shoeboxes, small green, yellow, and red circles

Directions:

1. Introduce basic rules for pedestrian safety.
 - Always walk on sidewalks. If there are no sidewalks, walk off the roadway. Walk facing traffic so drivers can see you.
 - If there is a street light, wait for the green traffic light before crossing the street. When the green light is lit, look left-right-left to make sure no cars are coming, then walk across the street. If there is no light, 1) stop, 2) look left-right-left, and 3) then cross the street if no cars are coming.
 - Cross the street only at an intersection or marked crosswalks. Don't run into the street between parked cars.
2. Show the class a picture of a traffic light. Ask if anyone knows what the picture is. Ask what the red, yellow, and green represent. Explain that when people are driving cars, riding bicycles, or walking that it is important to listen to the colors of the traffic lights. If needed, explain the colors of the lights.
 - Red/top – Stop. Don't go.
 - Yellow/middle – The light is about to turn red. Stop. Don't go.
 - Green/bottom – Look left-right-left. Cross the street if no cars are coming.
3. Show the class the stop sign and crosswalk sign, discuss what they mean.
4. Knowing the meaning of traffic rules is important for young children. Play the game Red Light/Green Light. One person is the traffic light with a green circle and a red circle. All other students start out in a line facing the traffic light person. When the green light is shown, everyone moves forward. When the red light is shown, everyone stops. Continue until the whole group reaches the traffic light. (Could use Walk/Don't Walk symbols instead of red/green.) *
5. Make stop and go lights out of shoeboxes. Tape the lid to the bottom of the box. Cover with black construction paper and have children place green, yellow and red circles in correct order on the box. Red circles on top, yellow middle, green on bottom.
6. To reinforce the lessons learned, take a walk in the neighborhood with kids. Look for crosswalks, stop signs, traffic lights, etc. At a working traffic light, discuss again what each color means.

7. Teach the safety song below and then practice crossing the street.

*I stop, I look, I listen.
I stop, I look, I listen.
I stop, I look, I listen.
Before I cross the street.*

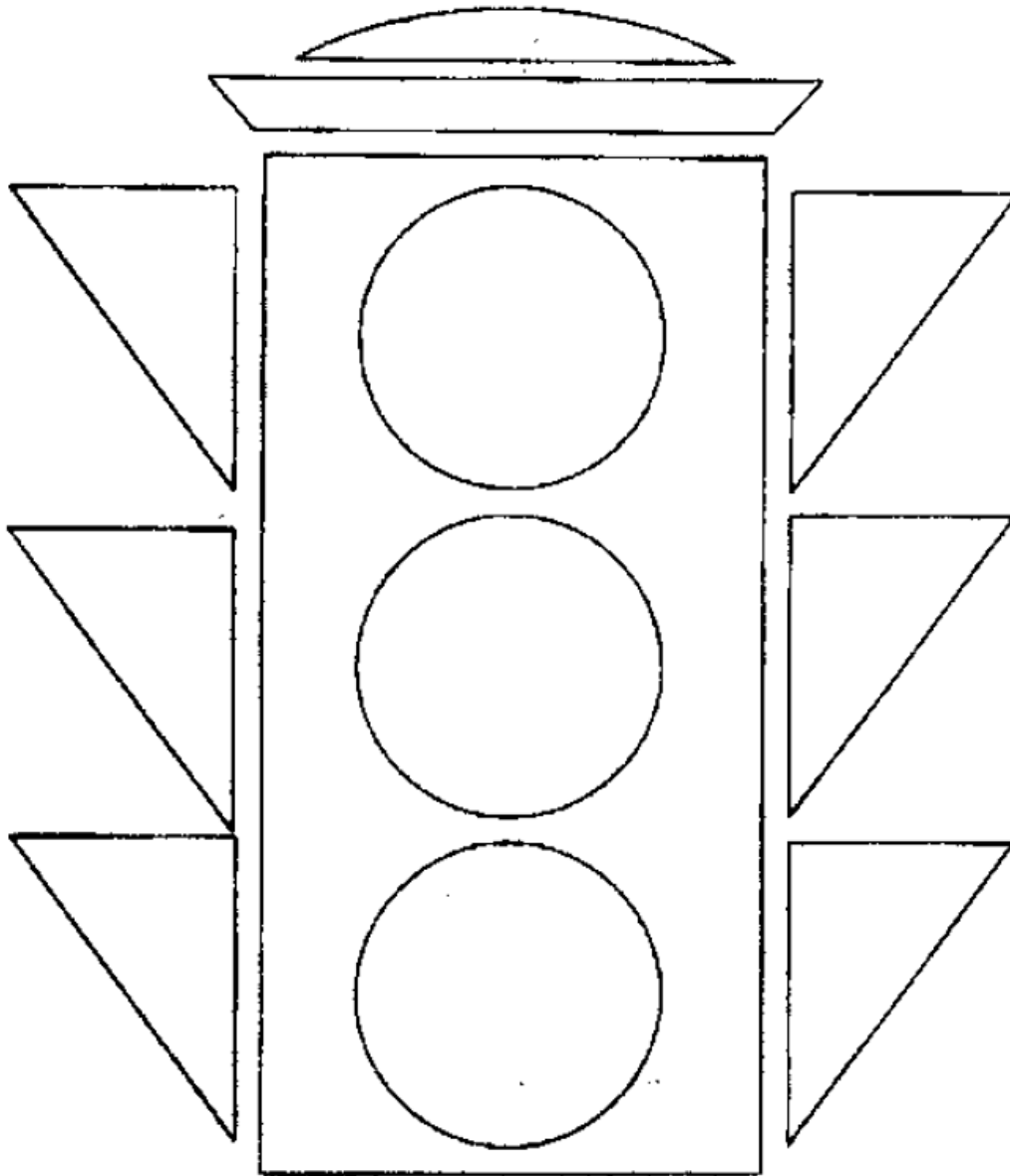
*Alternative version:

Red Light, Green Light

Have the children run around and someone yells out, "red light" and the children have to stop what they are doing until they hear "green light."

If Available Watch Arthur episode #119, D.W. Rides Again or read "D.W. Rides Again" by Marc Brown.

STOP
LIGHT



CROSSWALK
SIGN



STOP SIGN

