

# HISTORY OF PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

TEACHER VERSION



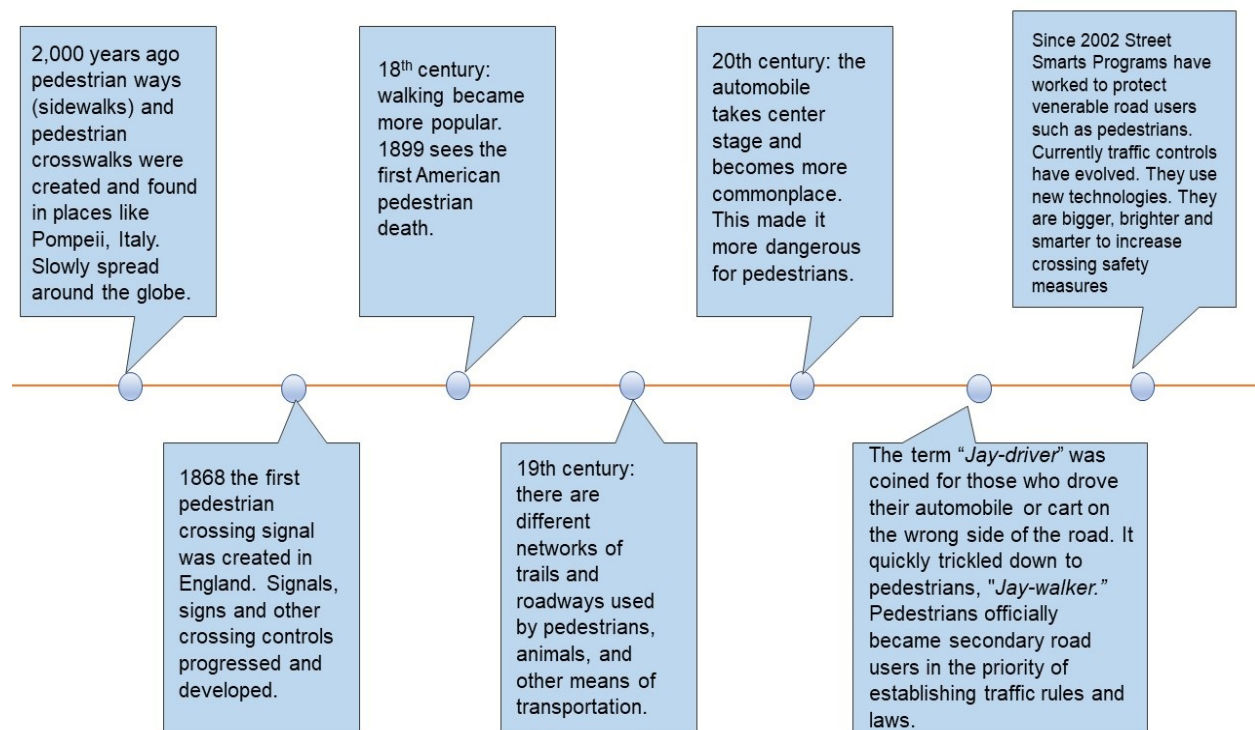
## READ:

### BRIEF PEDESTRIAN BACKGROUND

Let's briefly look back on pedestrians. When you hear, "pedestrian" what do you imagine? Possibly you pictured one of your neighbors walking up and down your street. Or even looking out the car window watching people walk on sidewalks and crossing on crosswalks. Well let's dig a little into the history of pedestrians.

60,000 years ago, the first pedestrians traversed the continents. They made their way walking from Africa through India to Australia. Through Asia to the Americas, and through Central Asia into Europe. From 60,000 to 6,000 Years ago the first foot trail-ways were created by repeatedly used routes for food, water and supplies. Some obstacles in walking were natural elements and blocking of pathways. 6,000 years ago, the first official footpaths are recorded around Spring of Jericho. 4000 years ago, the first fortified pathways were built. It became easier to travel longer distances to common resources. Sharing the road with other travelers interesting and because of that negotiating to share and trade resources with others was made possible. 3,500 years ago, pack animals such as donkeys, camels, elephants, and many others were domesticated and used for transportation of goods and eventually humans. Pathways became roadways and our first superhighways. These roadways became progressively more dangerous to pedestrians and all other road users because they were being shared. The more this became an issue the need for determining separating rules of the roadways became more important. Safety education became a large part of the risk mitigation for pedestrians.

### BRIEF TIMELINE OF PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



*After reading the background information, watch the video below before completing the questions.*

**WATCH:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI2BoR1pu3g>



## ANSWER:

In your own words, briefly summarize why there were risks to pedestrians and why there was a need for pedestrian safety technologies and education.

*Answers may vary. But could include things like, as more road-users, animals, and the automobile all started to share the same roadways; there was cluster and confusion. Leading to risks like injuries. Signals, signs, crosswalks and safety laws and education need to be created to organize the flow of all traffic and keep everyone safe.*

In your own words, explain where the term “jay-walking” came from.

*The term jay was used for country folk who weren't quite familiar with the modern city. So, when someone was driving incorrectly the term jay driver was used for someone unfamiliar with the rules of the road. Which quickly trickled to jay walker for anyone who was walking around not complying with the pedestrian walkways or rules.*

In what year was the first pedestrian crossing signal created and where?

*In 1868 the first pedestrian crossing signal was created in England.*



**TOPIC:** History of Pedestrian Safety

**GRADES:** 5 - 8

**STANDARD(S):** Common Core State Standards for History/Social Studies & National Health Education Standards

### **OBJECTIVES FOR HEALTH EDUCATION**

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- Analyze the relationship between safe pedestrian skills and injury prevention
- Describe ways to reduce or prevent pedestrian injuries while walking
- Students will demonstrate the ability to practice injury-prevention pedestrian behaviors to avoid or risks
- Examine the potential seriousness of injury if engaging in unsafe pedestrian behaviors

### **OBJECTIVES FOR HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES**

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- Determine central ideas from or information from a primary or secondary source
- Read complex informational texts with confidence
- Integrate visual information in diverse formats
- Write explanatory texts on historical events
- Read and comprehend complex literacy

### **PROCEDURE**

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- Assign the reading portion of the lesson: **Brief History Background of Pedestrian Safety (page 2)**
- Once students confirm that they have read the background information, assign students to view the following video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI2BoR1pu3g>
- Complete questions **(page 4)**

### **OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- Assign supplemental worksheets to enrich this to lesson
- Assign students to observe any pedestrian activity in their neighborhood. Have students take notes of what pedestrian behaviors they notice (while observing safely from home window or yard). Have students write down any safe or unsafe behaviors they observed. Use the students notes about what they observed as a discussion about what they already know about pedestrian safety.
- Use History of School Safety Patrol lesson next

## SUMMARY

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By the end of this lesson students should be able to explain how pedestrian laws have evolved and why. Students should also be able to explain why pedestrian safety laws are so important for everyone's safety. Through reading, writing and verbal communication student should understand that pedestrians and motorist share the road, and all need to comply with safety laws in order to prevent injuries.

## Common Core State Standards and National Health Education Standards

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1.8.1 1.8.5 2.8.4 2.8.9 4.8.1 5.8.1 7.8.3

RH.6-8.1 RH.6-8.4 RH.6-8.7 RH.6-8.9

WHST.6-8.1 WHST.6-8.2 WHST.6-8.5 WHST.6-8.8 WHST.6-8.9

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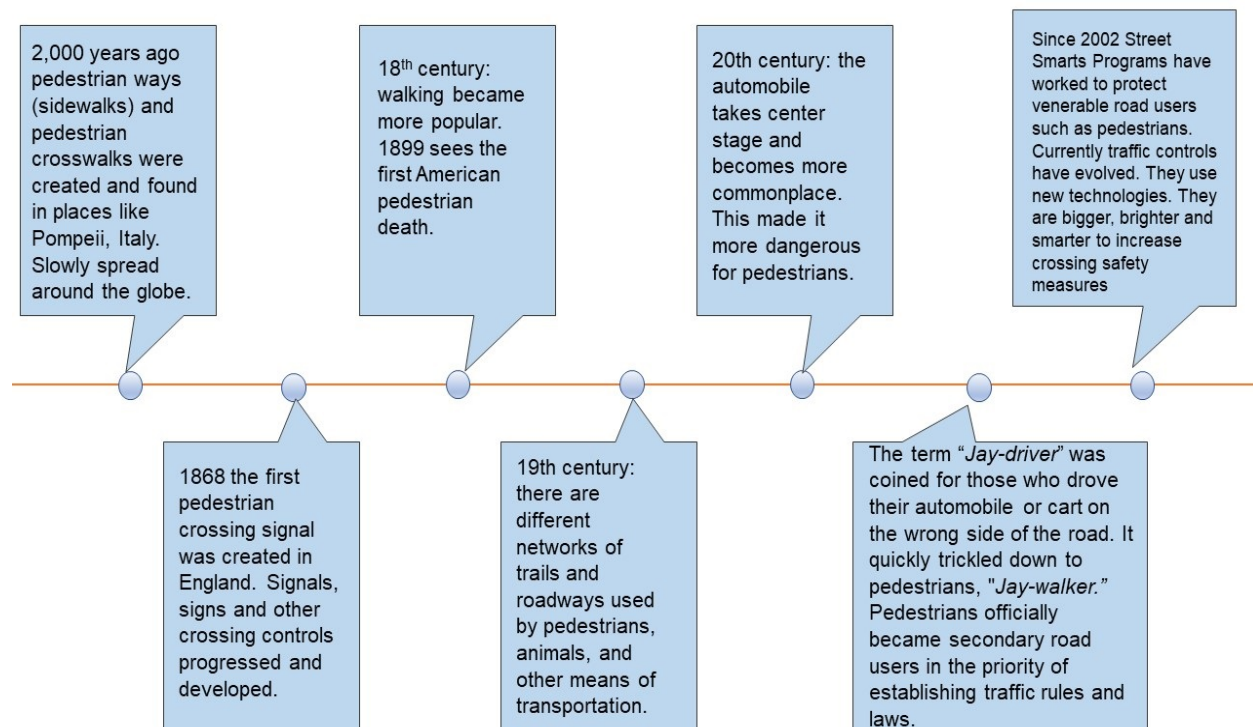
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In your own words, explain where the term “jay-walking” came from.

In what year was the first pedestrian crossing signal created and where?

NAME:

DATE:

ANSWER KEY

*Order the statements based on your knowledge on the history of pedestrian safety. Label the statements with a number, 1-5, with 1 being the first.*

5 The automobile takes center stage and becomes more commonplace. Now roadways are shared by pedestrians and automobiles making it dangerous for pedestrians.

2 The first pedestrian crossing signal was created in England. Signals, signs and other crossing controls progressed and developed.

1 Pedestrian ways (sidewalks) and pedestrian crosswalks were created and found in places like Pompeii, Italy and slowly spread around the globe.

4 There are different networks of trails and roadways used by pedestrians, animals, and other means of transportation.

3 Walking became more popular. American sees first pedestrian death.

NAME:

DATE:

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\_\_\_ The first pedestrian crossing signal was created in England. Signals, signs and other crossing controls progressed and developed.

\_\_\_ Pedestrian ways (sidewalks) and pedestrian crosswalks were created and found in places like Pompeii, Italy and slowly spread around the globe.

\_\_\_ There are different networks of trails and roadways used by pedestrians, animals, and other means of transportation.

\_\_\_ Walking became more popular. American sees first pedestrian death.