



#10457 DRIVER'S EDUCATION: PART 8--SHARING OUR HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS

DEAF SUCCESS PRODUCTIONS, 2004
GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
15 MINUTES

DESCRIPTION

Reviews how to share the highways with trucks of all sizes, motorcycles, school buses, and emergency vehicles. Reminds viewers that all drivers are responsible for their safety and of the drivers around them. ASL narrator; voiced in English.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Working with Others

- Standard: Displays effective interpersonal communication skills.
 - Benchmark: Demonstrates appropriate behaviors for relating well with others (e.g., empathy, caring, respect, helping, friendliness, politeness).

Subject Area: Health

- Standard: Knows essential concepts and practices concerning injury prevention and safety.
 - Benchmark: Knows injury prevention strategies for community health (e.g., neighborhood safety, traffic safety, safe driving).

Subject Area: Self-Regulation

- Standard: Considers risks.
 - Benchmark: Knows potential safety hazards, and knows common strategies to avoid hazard or injury.
 - Benchmark: Knows emergency safety procedures before undertaking hazardous procedures.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To discuss the importance of sharing the highways and byways with a variety of drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, joggers, and school children.
2. To identify vehicles and people that share the road:
 - a. Cars and trucks.
 - b. Motorcycles.
 - c. Bicycles.
 - d. School buses.

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- e. Emergency vehicles.
 - f. People (i.e., joggers, pedestrians, etc.).
3. To encourage all uses of roads to obey laws and practice good safety habits.

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Have each student list vehicles that share the road. Each should expand the list while watching the video.
2. When are people allowed to walk on or very near the street or roadway? (To cross a road and when jogging/walking.)

AFTER SHOWING

Applications and Activities

1. Ask the questions below.
 - a. What are the basic categories of trucks?
Answer: light, medium, and heavy.
 - b. When approaching a school bus with its red flashing lights, what does a motorist need to do?
Answer: A motorist must stop completely behind the bus and let the students get on the bus or get off the bus.
 - c. When approached by an emergency vehicle with its lights flashing or sirens engaged, what does a motorist need to do?
Answer: A motorist immediately drives safely as close as possible to the right edge of the roadway and lets the emergency vehicle pass.
2. Can horseback riders use the roadways in your state or area? What about snow mobiles, farm vehicles, construction equipment, mopeds, and vehicles pulled by animals?
3. In eight out of ten fatal crashes between cars and trucks, the occupants of the passenger vehicle are killed. Have students research the causes of car-truck collisions and ways to reduce these accidents.

Background: A tractor-trailer loaded with freight, safe-rated tires, and properly adjusted brakes, traveling at 55 miles per hour on a clear, dry roadway requires a minimum of 290 feet to come to a complete stop. Mindful of this, it is important to be attentive and drive defensively when sharing the road with large trucks.

Many of these crashes could be avoided if motorists knew about truck limitations and how to steer clear of unsafe situations involving trucks. For example, because it takes trucks much longer to stop, enter roadways carefully, never cutting right in front of them—always leave several car lengths between your vehicle and the truck. Avoid changing lanes directly in front of trucks, then slowing down immediately after passing them. Large trucks need lots of room and time to stop.

Don't hang out in the "no-zone"! No-zones are areas around trucks where cars "disappear" into blind spots, or they are so close that they restrict the truck driver's ability to stop or maneuver safely. Both types of no-zones greatly increase the potential for a crash.

Points to Remember

Backing Up. When a truck is backing up, it sometimes must temporarily block

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the street to maneuver its trailer accurately. Never pass close behind a truck that is preparing to back up or is in the process of backing up. Remember, most trailers are 8 1/2 feet wide and can completely hide objects that suddenly come between them and a loading area. So if you try to pass behind the truck, you enter a (no-zone) blind spot for you and the truck driver.

Passing. Another no-zone is just in front of trucks. One of the biggest mistakes you can make is to cut in too soon and slow down after passing a big truck. Because of their size and weight, trucks need a much greater distance to stop than cars. If you don't give them enough space, you run the risk of being hit from behind. So be sure to maintain a consistent speed when passing, and don't pull in front of the truck unless you can see the entire front of the truck in your rear-view mirror.

Rear Blind Spots. Unlike automobiles, trucks have deep blind spots directly behind them. If you tailgate, not only do you make it impossible for the truck driver to see you, but you also cut off your own view of traffic flow. So staying in this no-zone is almost like inviting a collision.

Side Blind Spots. Trucks have much larger blind spots on both sides than cars do. When you travel in these blind spots for any length of time, you can't be seen by the truck driver. If the truck driver needs to make an emergency maneuver or change lanes, they won't be able to see you and a crash could result.

Wide Turns. Because of their vehicles' size, truck drivers sometimes need to swing wide to manage their turns. When they do, they can't see cars directly behind or beside them. So give them plenty of room and *never* try to squeeze around them.

RELATED RESOURCES

Captioned Media Program

- [*Citizens' Guide To Safe Driving #7914*](#)
- [*Driver's Education: Part 1—Becoming A Safe, Skillful Driver #10445*](#)
- [*Driver's Education: Part 4—A System for Safe Driving Decisions #10453*](#)
- [*The Ultimate Driving Challenge #8214*](#)

To view more titles in the *Driver's Education* series and other related media, please connect to our Web site at <http://www.cfv.org/browsetitles.asp?sn=98>.

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **SHARE THE ROAD WITH MOTORCYCLES AND BICYCLES**

<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/hdbk/pgs55thru57.htm>

How you can share the road safely with motorcyclists and bicyclists who have the same rights and responsibilities as vehicle drivers.

- **BICYCLE LANES**

http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/hdbk/pgs22thru25.htm#bike_in

An online California driver's handbook, *Laws and Rules of the Road*, that has a specific page on "Bicycle Lanes."

- **EMERGENCY VEHICLES**

<http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/dmanual/chapter05-manual.htm#emg-veh>

Motorists must yield the right-of-way to fire, ambulance, police and other authorized emergency vehicles when they are responding to emergencies.

- **SHARE WITH CARE**

<http://www.csaa.com/global/articledetail/0,1398,1004040000%257C3125,00.html>

The American Automobile Association (AAA) offers valuable tips to car drivers for safely sharing the road with large trucks.

- **CHILD SAFETY: DRIVERS AND SCHOOL BUS SAFETY**

http://childcare.about.com/od/hottopicsinchildcare/a/schoolsafety_2.htm

Focuses on how to drive safety around school buses. School children and drivers are sharing the road safely.