

Community Helpers

Good People
Everywhere

WALK



Learn it One way to learn about a crossing guard's duties is to watch one in action. Do you have a safe spot in your neighborhood where you could take the children on a little field trip and watch a crossing guard? If so, take the kids and let them sit on a sidewalk to watch. What do they notice the crossing guard doing? What is the main job? Are there any tools they use on the job? If you do not have an opportunity to watch a real crossing guard in the neighborhood, there are many videos online. Again, as the children watch, ask them what they observe. Make sure to have a discussion about safety and that a crossing guard is a community helper who helps keep us safe when we are traveling on foot.



Read it

Often when we are learning about real life jobs and situations it is a good time to bring in non-fiction texts so the children can read about that profession. Check out *School Crossing Guards* by Terri DeGezelle and *Crossing Guards (People in My Community)* by JoAnn Early Macken.



Move it

Up, Down, Stop and Go! This game is as easy as it sounds. Have all the children stand in a circle. The person that is in the center calls out Up, Down, Stop, or Go. The players do what the leader says just like they would if the crossing guard gave them a direction. If the leader calls up, children jump up and down. For down, the children will squat. When the leader calls go, they will run in place and stop means freeze. Have the children take turns calling out directions.



Make it

All crossing guards wear a brightly colored safety vest. Start out with a large brown paper sack. With the open end down, cut one side up the middle to the closed side of the bag creating the front of your vest. On the closed side of the bag, cut a hole for the child's head to fit through. You might make this in a V to look more like a vest. With the bag open, cut arm holes on each side. Now let the children decorate with orange and yellow paper strips you have precut or use orange and yellow reflective tape. You can add these to a dramatic play area where the kids can practice being a crossing guard.

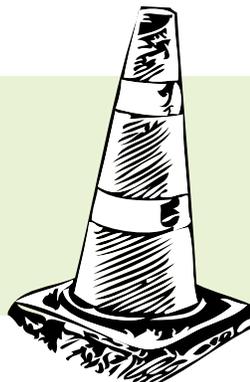


Imagine it

Using painter's tape on the floor, make a set of streets like you would find on a map of the city. Bring out your toy cars and toy human figures. If you have toy signs add these in, but if not help the kids make some for their pretend city. After the community is set up, let the kids practice and play with all of the safety rules they are learning as they pretend to get cars and people across the tape streets. If it is nice outside and you have a safe area for kids to ride bikes or scooter toys, let them make this game more realistic. The children can take turns directing traffic and allowing people to walk across the busy bike and scooter paths.

November

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Community Helpers Good People Everywhere

Crossing Guards help you cross busy streets safely.

HELP. Get this family home from school, safe and sound.

