

Brighten Up!

LEVEL: K-1-2-3-4-5-6

SUBJECT AREA(S): Health, Social Studies, Language Arts, Science

OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to identify appropriate clothing that increases the wearer's visibility.

TIME: 20 to 30 minutes

MATERIALS

Figures 4-1 and 4-2: Smart Sam
Figures 4-3 and 4-4: Visible Vanessa
Crayons
Scissors (optional)
Figure 4-5: Parent/Guardian Letter

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

1. Discuss visibility with students. Why do people who are out walking, playing near streets, or riding their bikes need to be seen by motorists? What can people wear to be visible to motorists?
2. Discuss which colors are most likely to get students' attention. Who among them is wearing clothing that can be seen by motorists? Who in the community wears clothing that needs to be seen by motorists? (*flaggers, bicyclists*)

For Your Information

Bright colors get our attention. For examples, use classroom items such as various colors of construction paper or students' possessions.

3. Give each student a copy of Figures 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, and 4-4, and have them color or draw these children wearing visible clothing.

ASSESSMENT

Review the children's work.

EXTENSIONS

1. Have students cut out paper dolls and clothing and dress them for specific walking/ weather conditions. Or have them draw children and clothing of their own design.
2. Bring some retro-reflective tape to school and have students apply it to their shoes, hats, jackets, etc.

For Your Information

Retro-reflective tape is an excellent material for making children visible day or night. The tape and clothing that is made with it are available in more and more bicycle shops, outdoor-clothing stores, sports-equipment stores, and/or general-merchandise /variety stores. Many athletic-shoe manufacturers put it on the heels of their shoes.

3. Send Figure 4-5 home with students to inform parents/guardians about retro-reflective clothing and tape. If available, give them samples of the tape to take home, too.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Please refer to the Iowa Safe Routes to School Encouragement and Education Program Web site for additional resources (www.iowasaferoutes.org).



Figure 4-1



Figure 4-2

Figure 4-3





Figure 4-4

date

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Today your child learned about the importance of being visible to motorists when playing near or crossing streets. Please discuss with him or her which color clothing is most easily seen (bright colors) and stress the importance of being seen by motor-vehicle drivers.

Every year in the United States over 50,000 children are injured in pedestrian accidents because motorists failed to see them in time to react or stop. Be sure your child is dressed to be seen whenever he or she is outdoors near streets. Retro-reflective tape is an economical way to make your child visible to motorists during the day or at night. Just by applying it to shoes, jackets, and/or packs, this material can increase the visibility of your child as much as five times. Retro-reflective gear and tape are available in more and more bicycle shops, outdoor-clothing stores, sports-equipment stores, and/or general-merchandise/variety stores. Some athletic-shoe manufacturers put the tape on shoe heels.

Thank you for helping to keep your child visible and safe.

Sincerely,

teacher's signature

Figure 4-5