

The *ABCs* of Bus Riding

Arrive on time: Students should always arrive at the bus stop five minutes early to ensure safe boarding.

Bus stop club: If bus stop safety is a concern, join with your neighbors and create a “bus stop club,” where parents take turns looking out for the kids.

Clean the air! Riding the school bus reduces the number of cars on our roads, which helps reduce air pollution.

Drive time: When students ride the bus, busy parents save time.

Exercise: Walking to the bus stop is great exercise for your child.

Friends: Riding to and from school on the bus gives students more time to spend with their friends and a chance to make new friends.

Get acquainted: Take the time to meet the driver and parents of the other kids on the bus, to provide a sense of security for you and your child.

Healthier, happier community: Increased bus ridership reduces the number of cars on the road, which reduces smog-forming emissions and traffic congestion. That makes your community a healthier, happier place to live!

Increasing bus ridership can reduce school traffic, benefiting not just the students and parents, but the community at large.

Jot a note: If your child is nervous about riding the bus, make him or her feel better by providing a reassuring note, or just an “I love you!”

Know the rules: Just as your child should know the rules for safe riding, make sure you know the rules of the road when driving on the same streets as school buses.

Listen to the driver: Make sure your child knows to always follow the driver’s directions.

Money! Save on gas costs by cutting out a few trips to school each week and not idling in the carpool lane.

No waiting in carpool lines helps you reduce the stress of sitting in traffic, saves time and reduces the wear and tear on your car.

Opportunity: Riding the bus gives kids the chance to do their part in helping the environment.

Prices! Students who ride the bus can receive prizes from The Clean Air Campaign’s SurPrize Patrol, which will visit the school on select days.

Quality: Increase the time you have to do things you need to do! Have a snack waiting when your child gets home, take a walk, read that book. Trips to and from school can equal an hour or more each day that you can use.

Relax: Studies have shown children who ride the bus arrive more relaxed, alert and ready to start the day.

Safety: Yellow school buses are by far the safest mode of transportation for kids today – about 2,000 times safer than the family car!

Try it! Students don’t have to ride the bus every day – try riding just in the morning or afternoon, or taking the bus a few days a week. Every trip counts!

Utilize your tax dollars. Take advantage of the transportation that you help to provide.

Visit the bus stop with your child to make sure that he/she knows how to safely wait for the bus

Walk to and from the bus stop in groups for added safety. Plus, it’s a fun way for you and your child to get to know your neighbors!

Xtra time: Riding the bus gives students extra time to study for a test, catch up on their reading or just relax before getting to school or home.

Yellow is Green: Georgia is striving to make its buses some of the nation’s cleanest running and most environmentally friendly.

Zero: The amount of time you’ll spend in traffic; the amount of money you’ll waste on gas; the excess smog-forming emissions you’ll emit – when your child rides the bus.