

Choose the safest route and walk it with your children. Look for the most direct route with the fewest street crossings. Walk the route with your children until they demonstrate traffic safety awareness. Children under age 8 should walk with an adult or older child every day. They should take the same route and avoid shortcuts.

Children should be taught to obey all traffic markers. A flashing "walk" sign is not an automatic "go" signal, it means a pedestrian has permission to cross, but must first stop and check for cars.

Lots of children get hit when they run into the street after a baseball, a basketball, a football, or a Frisbee. Teach your child to never run into the street. No toy is more important than **A child's life.**

Pedestrian injuries have become the second leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 5-14, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

Children should learn street safety as soon as they are ready to walk outdoors.

But they need your help.

As the leader in pediatric care and an advocate for children's health, Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center is the only all-specialty children's hospital in the Hudson Valley region and Fairfield County Connecticut.

Advanced Pediatric Care in the Right Setting

Today, Westchester is home to one of the most unique and advanced children's hospitals in the world. With hundreds of clinical and surgical specialists in almost every medical field, the entire hospital is dedicated to the health and well-being of children—treating more than 20,000 patients each year. From pediatric trauma, intensive care, cancer and heart disease—this clinical expertise is provided under the spired roof of a state-of-the-art building that was designed from the point of view of children and their families, not just from the perspective of doctors and nurses. This concept is the cornerstone of a new approach in providing healthcare for children called "family-centered care"—involving parents, siblings and family members in a child's treatment, every step of the way. This specially created environment enables medical specialists to provide the most advanced care to patients.



To make an appointment with one of our pediatric specialists, call 1-866-WMC PEDS.

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Pedestrian Safety



Pedestrian Safety

- **Stop**
at the curb or edge of the road.

- **Walk**
do not run into a street.

- **Listen** and **Look**
for traffic to the left, to the right,
and to the left again.

*Teach children who don't know
left from right to look "this way,"
"that way," and "this way."*

- **Wait**
until the street is clear.

- **Keep Looking**
until you've finished crossing the street.

- **Accompany**
your children until they can show you
that they are safe pedestrians.

*Many of the children who die of
traffic injuries are killed while
playing, running, walking or
crossing a street. Cross the street
hundreds of times with your
children before letting them
cross alone.*

Young children (ages 5-9) are at risk crossing a street alone because:

- They "dart out" into traffic.
- They believe if they can see the driver, the driver can see them.
- They believe cars can stop quickly.
- They can't tell which direction sound is coming from.
- Their peripheral vision is only 1/3 of an adult.
- They don't recognize danger or react to it.
- They can't tell how fast a car is traveling or how far away it is.

Remind older children to:

- **Use** sidewalks.
- **Keep** to the left and walk facing traffic where there are no sidewalks.
- **Be seen** at night. Trim clothing with materials that reflect light.

"Reflective" tape is an excellent choice. It's not expensive and available at fabric, sport goods, and hardware stores.

