

junior8

# ROAD SAFETY



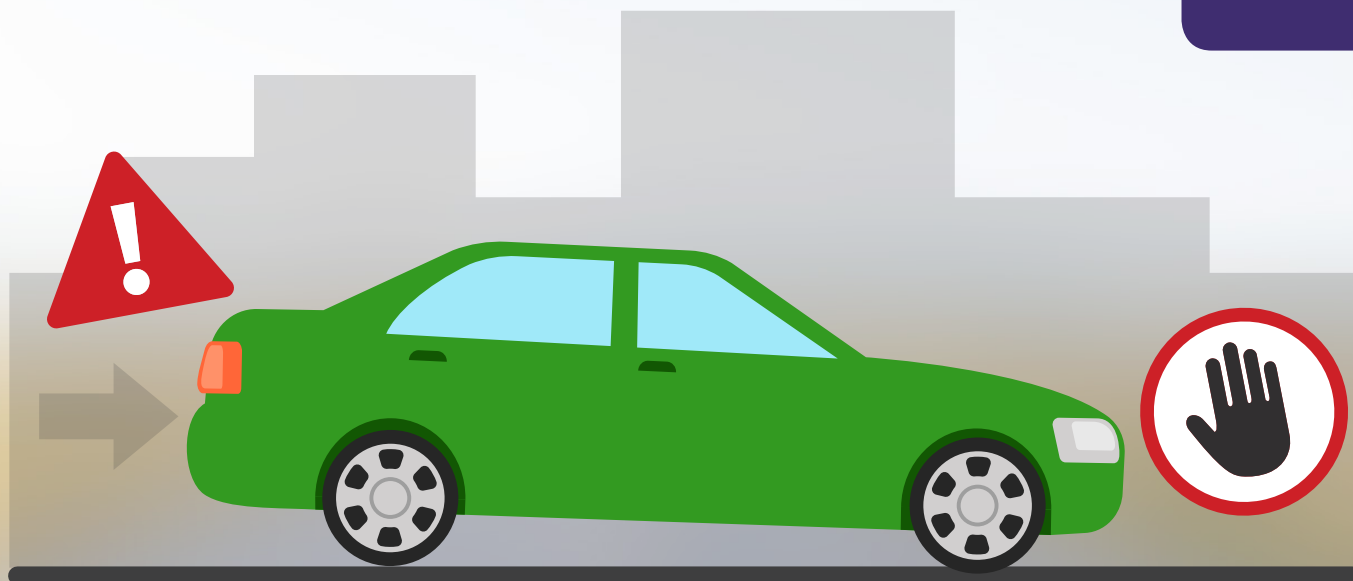
GET LEARNING



30 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED



## AIM

To get children learning and thinking about road safety by considering the distance it takes a car to stop when travelling at different speeds.

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Ball of string (roughly 100m)
- Tape measure
- Stopping Distances Worksheet  
(Download from OBM)

# GET LEARNING: ROAD SAFETY

## THEME: STAYING SAFE



### LEADER PREPARATION

For this activity you will need a large space. You will also need roughly 100m of string, but it doesn't have to be continuous, so you can use two or three balls of string.

Link to 'Road Safety Week' which takes place in November each year. Find more resources and support at [roadsafetyweek.org.uk](https://roadsafetyweek.org.uk).



## GETTING INTO THE ACTIVITY

Start the activity by asking your group if any of them have ever taken risks crossing the road? Can they give an example? When people take risks crossing the road, they can put themselves and others in danger. Cars take a lot longer to stop than we perhaps think. Do the following activity with your group, to help them realise how long a car can take to stop.

- 1 Give the group a ball of string and ask them to guess how long a car takes to stop at different speeds. Start with 20mph.
- 2 Now get them to measure the distance they have guessed and compare it with the real results.



**Download 'Stopping Distances' Worksheet**  
(shows results)

- 3 Using the string, continue letting your group guess the stopping distances with the different speeds, comparing with the real results after each guess. For the longer distances, you will need to snake the string around your meeting space, to fit it all in.
- 4 Discuss the results and ask them if they are surprised at the distance it takes to stop? What will they do differently when crossing the road in the future?



### DID YOU KNOW?

- On Average 1 pedestrian is killed and 14 are seriously injured everyday in the UK.
- Children aged 10 to 19 account for over 20% of all pedestrian injuries & deaths.
- Road safety is improving in the UK, with less and less pedestrians being involved in accidents.
- The 'Green Cross Code' was introduced in 1970, encouraging people to 'Stop, Look & Listen' before crossing roads.



### IDEAS TO TAKE THIS FURTHER...

Ask your group to create posters raising awareness about crossing roads safely. These could then be displayed in your meeting place.

### SPEED LIMITS

Discuss with the children why the speed limits vary on different roads. Outside their school it may be 20 mph when children are arriving and leaving. Are there any other roads in your area which the children think should have a speed reduction to 20mph?