



Map making

Map making supports children to think about and plan for how to be safe when they are out and about.

4 – 8y This experience will work best for:
Children aged 4 – 8 years.

 **WHAT YOU NEED**
Paper and pencils, felt tip pens or crayons

HOW TO DO IT

Decide what you are going to make a map of. Start with a place that your child is familiar with, for example going from your house to the local shop or park, or a place your child chooses.

Ask your child to draw your place first then ask your child “How do we get to the?”

For example, “Can you draw our house?” “And the park?” “How do we get from our place to the park?” “Can you draw me a map?” “Where is the safest place to cross the street to get to the park?” “Can we get there without crossing a road?”

Encourage your child to draw landmarks (trees, parks, buildings, bridges), streets, other houses etc.

Then, use your map to find your destination.





WHAT YOUR CHILD IS LEARNING

Encouraging your child to think about where they are when they are out and about will help them learn about their local community and be able to find their way around when they are older.

The safest way to get somewhere – by drawing pedestrian crossings or traffic lights, where appropriate, on the map you can talk about the safest rather than the quickest way to get somewhere.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

When you are using the map to find your destination, allow lots of time. This is not a quick trip. Always hold hands while walking and stop to check the map rather than walking and reading the map at the same time.

When drawing the map and when you are out, point out the locations of places of safety. For example, the police station, a friend or relative's house, the kindergarten. Talk to your children about who they could ask for help if they ever needed it.



QUESTIONS TO ASK YOU CHILD AND WHAT TO TALK ABOUT

Talk about what points on the map might be unsafe and why.

Talk about how you can be safe when you get to those places.



SONGS TO SING WITH CHILDREN

<https://childroadsafety.org.au/parents/road-safety-songs/>

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

<https://childroadsafety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Parent-Resource.pdf>



ASK...

“How do we get from our house to the park?”

“Can you draw me a map?”