

### Children react differently in traffic than adults. Why?

- Children have a more narrowed field of vision than adults, it is strongly restricted to the right and left. They notice laterally approaching vehicles very late.
- Children are not able to look to the left or right while running and they can not stop abruptly at risk.
- Children can not see over parked cars. They see less and are seen even less well.
- Children do not distinguish between seeing and being seen. If they see a car, they



are convinced that they are also seen.

- Children can locate sounds badly. So they often do not recognize in time, the direction from which such horn or engine noises come.
- Children can estimate speeds and braking distances reasonably in advanced primary school age.
- Children do not realize that vehicles have a stop and braking distance.
- Short legs and smaller steps: Children need much longer to cross a roadway.
- Children react quickly without thinking if they have to simultaneously pay attention to several things.
- Children react spontaneous and thoughtless. They often just start running when friends wait on the other side of the road.
- Children notice only the things that currently interest them. Other incidents are not noticed or considered unimportant.

### Children are no small adults

### Traffic rules

Many children know the basic traffic rules. In more complicated situations (crossing a busy street, cycling on sidewalk with parked cars) children often do not react adequately.



### Children as cyclists

It is recommended that children (and their parents) only go alone on the road by bike, if they have participated at a traffic education course in a traffic school of youth. There, the children learn the correct behavior with the bike on the road.

Children should always wear a helmet when cycling!

### What does this mean to as an adult?

#### Be a role model! Children learn by copying!

- You as a parent should teach your children the basic rules of behaving in traffic on time before school starts, so that they can participate independently in traffic.
- Cross the street only at the safest places (traffic lights, pedestrian crossings), even if it is connected to a small detour. At crosswalks, we first must all - not just the children - have eye contact to approaching drivers before taking the first step on the street.

## Children in Traffic

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