

# Be BRIGHT

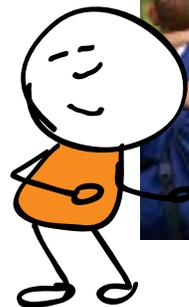


## Be Safe, Be Seen, Be Bright

### Welcome Back!

It's back to school time and that means more people are walking, bicycling and driving to and from schools. It's exciting and fun! One thing all families should add to their lists as they prepare for back to school: traveling safely to school. This newsletter includes helpful safe travel tips for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers.

Now is the perfect time to plan for safe travel to and from schools. Whether your children walk, bike, ride the bus or ride in a car, a little planning and preparation can go a long way toward making the trip safe, convenient and fun. Please practice and discuss these tips as a family. Parents, be a good example by modeling safe and responsible travel behavior.



## Be BRIGHT

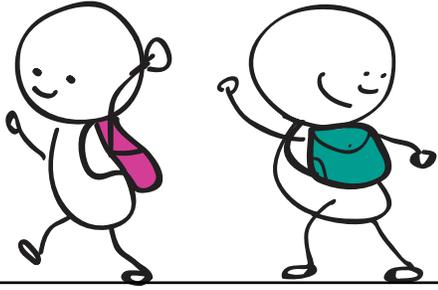
Be Bright is a regional bicycle and pedestrian safety education program funded by the Arizona Department of Transportation and Valley Metro.

The Be Bright program ends December 31, 2016.

602.262.RIDE (7433)  
bebright.valleymetro.org

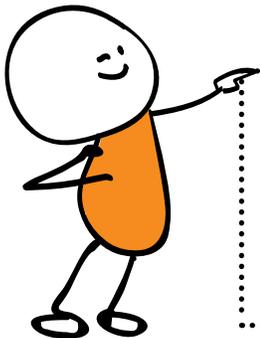


# Be BRIGHT



## Pedestrian Safety Tips

- When possible, walk with a group. Older children may walk together and parents are encouraged to walk with younger children. Ask if there is a Walking School Bus to join, or start one yourself. Learn more at [bebright.valleymetro.org](http://bebright.valleymetro.org).
- Look left, right and then left again before crossing any street. Never run into the street without looking first.
- Follow the directions of the crossing guard.
- Watch for cars when walking across driveways and street crossings. Drivers may not be watching for you.
- Walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, walk close to the edge of the road facing traffic so you can see approaching cars.
- Be visible. Wear bright clothing, or add reflective material or a blinking light to your jacket or backpack.
- Understand and obey traffic signals and signs. When available, use crosswalks with traffic lights and signals; wait for a walk signal and a green light to cross the street.
- Be aware of your surroundings.



The best advice is to be especially alert around schools no matter how you travel. Mark your calendar for International Walk to School Day on **Wednesday October 5, 2016**. Set a goal to at least try walking to school. Look for more details next month!

For more tips and additional resources, please visit [bebright.valleymetro.org](http://bebright.valleymetro.org).



## Motorist Safety Tips

- Reduce driving speeds near schools and obey school zone signs.
- Look for children who are walking and bicycling. Be ready to stop at all times; children do not always notice oncoming traffic.
- Understand and obey traffic signals and signs. Stop when directed to do so by a crossing guard.
- Stop and wait for pedestrians at intersections, at both marked and unmarked crosswalks. Try to make eye contact with children waiting to cross the road.
- Be patient and wait for children to complete their crossing before proceeding.
- Stop in both directions for a school bus with flashing lights. School buses stop at all railway crossings.

## Bicyclist Safety Tips

- Protect your head by wearing a helmet.
- Make sure your bicycle is adjusted properly. Check to ensure all parts are secure and working well.
- Go with the flow and ride the same direction as traffic. Never ride against traffic.
- Stay alert and ride predictably, in a straight line. Follow the rules of the road just like a vehicle.
- Understand and obey traffic signals and signs.
- Follow the directions of the crossing guard.
- Be visible. Wear bright clothing and use a front white light, red rear light and reflectors to improve visibility.
- Choose low-traffic streets when possible.

## Be BRIGHT

Be Bright is a regional bicycle and pedestrian safety education program funded by the Arizona Department of Transportation and Valley Metro.

The Be Bright program ends December 31, 2016.

602.262.RIDE (7433)  
[bebright.valleymetro.org](http://bebright.valleymetro.org)

