

Road safety



Summary

Road crashes are a worsening global disaster destroying lives and livelihoods – particularly in developing countries where road building and significant growth in traffic volumes means that millions of people face road dangers that they have never experienced before.

Children in the UK are at risk too – as students begin to enjoy greater independence from their parents and start to travel to and from school on their own, their chances of being involved in or witnessing a road accident grow. To prepare for this, they can be encouraged to use a few easy-to-learn techniques to keep themselves safe – and to give them the confidence to help if an accident does happen.



In partnership with **TOYOTA**

Aims

- > To help children understand the dangers posed by roads and traffic
- > To help children understand what first aid is and how it applies to real situations
- > To help children develop basic first aid skills to use at the scene of a road accident
- > To support children in becoming more independent and understanding how they must take responsibility for themselves and others
- > To help children become more active citizens by being alert to what is happening around them and being able to respond appropriately
- > To give children an understanding of why road safety is a growing problem across the world, particularly in developing countries

Performance

The performance is based on a drama in which a young person is hit by a scooter. Students will see helpful and unhelpful behaviour which you can use as a basis to talk about road safety and basic first aid.

You'll need to cast the following roles:

- > Narrator
- > Jasmine – 14-year-old girl
- > Nathan – 10-year-old boy
- > Kayleigh – 14-year-old girl
- > Sarah – 14-year-old girl
- > Scooter rider – young man
- > Male bystander
- > Man
- > Woman

Narrator

This is Jasmine who is 14 years old. She has been asked to keep an eye on her younger brother, Nathan, as they walk to school. This is Nathan. He's ten and he's only started walking to school recently.

Jasmine

Nathan, we're going to be late. Kayleigh and Sarah will be waiting for me at the end of the road.

Nathan

Ok, ok, I'm coming.

[They walk the length of the stage to meet Jasmine's two friends]

Kayleigh

Hi, Jasmine, hurry up will you?

Jasmine

Sorry girls, I had to wait for Nathan.

[The girls chatter as the four make their way to school. They come to a busy main road and stand along the kerb.]

Narrator

The four come to a busy main road lined with lots of parked cars. There is a pedestrian crossing a little way up the road.

[Jasmine starts to walk towards the crossing, and Nathan follows her.]

Sarah

Oi, where are you going?

Jasmine

To cross the road. There's a crossing up there. Come on, Nathan.

Kayleigh

But that's miles away. I'm going to cross here.

Sarah

Yeah, me too.

[Jasmine shrugs and begins to walk towards the pedestrian crossing with her little brother. Kayleigh's message alert beeps on her phone. She takes her phone out of her pocket to look at it and steps out into the road. The characters freeze in their positions.]

Narrator

[You can use sound effects here when the characters freeze. Drop the lights while Kayleigh lies in the road. Or just let the narrator narrate the events while the characters reposition themselves.]

There's a squeal of brakes, a thump, and then the silence is broken by Sarah screaming. Jasmine turns around, horrified. Kayleigh is lying in the road, unconscious. She has been hit by a scooter, which is lying on its side near the middle of the road.

[The scooter rider is sitting up in the road, staring at Kayleigh in disbelief. His right arm is bleeding badly. Kayleigh is lying in the road and she's got a cut below her knee which is bleeding. She's dropped her bag beside her]

Sarah

Oh no! Oh no! Kayleigh! Help!

Jasmine

Nathan, stay here! Don't move!

[Jasmine runs back to Sarah, who is standing at the kerb and sobbing loudly. Sarah starts to rush between the parked cars towards her friend.]

Sarah

We've got to help her!

Jasmine

No, stay where you are! There are too many cars!

Narrator

A couple of cars have stopped, but there is still a lot of traffic. Jasmine stands on the pavement and begins to wave her arms and shout to stop the traffic. Gradually, cars on both sides of the road stop and put on their hazard lights. Jasmine uses the Green Cross Code – Stop, Look Listen! – before stepping into the road.

Scooter rider

She just stepped in front of me. She was looking at her phone.

Narrator

A number of passers by have stopped to see what is going on. Most are staring, shocked, at the child in the road. One man looks at the scene and walks away without saying anything. Two adults – a man and a woman – leave their cars and approach Jasmine as she leans over Kayleigh. The young girl is bleeding from a leg wound and is not moving.

Male adult

Oh my goodness. Is she dead?

Female adult

Shhh! Don't say that. *[To Jasmine]* I'll phone for an ambulance. Don't worry.

Male adult

I don't know what to do. We need help. Help! Help!

Jasmine

I know what to do. We did first aid at school. Kayleigh, can you hear me?

Narrator

As the woman talks to the emergency services on her mobile, Jasmine kneels down in front of Kayleigh. She places one hand on her forehead and two finger tips under the chin and tilts the head back.

Sarah

What are you doing to her? Leave her alone!

Jasmine

She can't breathe! I'm letting her breathe properly. You have to tilt her head back and lift her chin to open her airway. She'll be ok, I think. The ambulance will be here soon.

Scooter rider

Oh no. I just didn't see her. I didn't see her.

Jasmine

This cut on her leg is really bad. I need to wipe it with something. It's bleeding so much. Oh, I remember, I'm meant to raise her leg up to stop the bleeding. Ok, I'll use her bag.

[She lifts the leg up by the ankle, and places Kayleigh's foot on her bag.]

Adult female

What good will that do? Here – use a tissue.

Jasmine

Thanks, but a tissue won't help. If I keep her leg up, the bleeding will slow down. We need to put some pressure on the cut as well. I need something to tie round it to help slow the bleeding. I know, my T-shirt!

[She gets her gym T-shirt out of her bag and ties it round the wound. She turns to the scooter rider.]

Are you all right?

Scooter driver

I think so. I've hurt my arm. It's bleeding.

Jasmine

[She raises his arm above the level of the heart.]

You need to keep your arm lifted so that your wound is higher than the level of your heart and put some pressure over it, using your own hand. There, hold it like that.

Sarah

Is she going to be ok, Jasmine?

Narrator

Jasmine looks at Sarah. When the accident happened, all she could think of was helping the injured people. Now that she has done that, the shock begins to sink in and she wants to cry. She hugs Sarah. A siren can be heard, getting louder and louder until the blue lights of an ambulance appear. Help is here.

End of drama