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.



To Learn More About Pedestrian's Behavior Visit Our Video Test Section