Lesson 1: Walking Safely Near Traffic
• Discuss Rights and Responsibilities of Drivers, Bicyclists and Pedestrians in South Carolina.
• Hold a group discussion on where students currently walk/bicycle and where they would like to walk. Discuss whether the students feel this situation is safe versus unsafe and brainstorm solutions.
• Discuss bicycling and walking levels in the United States. Find out how SC ranks among others states using this fact sheet. Debate whether there is a correlation between high bicycling and walking levels and low bicycle/pedestrian fatality rates.
• Address the environmental and health benefits of walking safely.
• Have students interview a grandparent or senior about how they traveled to school.

Lesson 2: Crossing Streets Safely
• Lead group discussion about what affects a driver’s ability to drive safely around pedestrians.
• Lead group discussion on personal responsibility as a pedestrian and identify ways to decrease risk of injury while walking.
• Discuss distractions while walking and have students review this study.

Lesson 3: Crossing Intersections Safely
• Take field measurements to determine distances at an example intersection.
• Go over Traffic signs and signals and take this practice road sign quiz.
• Watch this five minute video and further discuss crossing scenarios.
• Analyze/Obsrve all intersections surrounding the school campus and brainstorm possible safety improvements (use online Google maps or go outside and observe).

Lesson 4: Parking Lot Safety
• Discuss the importance of seat belt safety and create a school wide survey to poll seat belt usage.
• Develop a map of the school grounds showing entry points and assess your school’s arrival and dismissal procedures.

Lesson 5: Bus Safety
• Allow students to sit in the driver’s seat on a school bus to assess blind spots/danger zones.
• If public transportation is available, go for a field trip and practice bus safety skills.
• If a field trip is not possible, have students plan a day’s travel utilizing the local public bus route map and schedule.
Pedestrian Safety Lessons
Adaption for Middle School Aged Students (Grades 6-8)

Ideas For all Lessons:

Take a Supervised, Planned Walk Around School/Neighborhood
- Utilize the Walkability Checklist for Youth during the walk. Utilize technology, digital cameras, and GPS/GIS equipment when available. Create a spreadsheet or presentation of the walk findings and present or draft a letter explaining the findings to community experts.

Have the students create informational brochures on any of the pedestrian safety topics above.
- Invite guest speakers to present to the students. Bus drivers, Police officers, School Resource Office, City/Town Planners, Local bike club/shop, avid community cyclist.

Discuss the importance of modeling safe pedestrian behaviors to younger students.
- Line-up opportunities for your students to TEACH the NHTSA curriculum to your feeder elementary school students.

Create and analyze safe walking routes on a map of the areas surrounding your school utilizing the Walkbiketoschool.org Mapping Tool or Fire Up Your Feet Mapping Exercise. Check out More Tips to Engage Middle Schoolers.

Notes when utilizing the NHTSA Pedestrian Safety Curriculum:
- A fifth grade lesson may still be applicable to an older student due to lack of pedestrian safety knowledge.
- Utilize pre and post assessment in the 4th and 5th grade lessons to determine which parts of lesson to focus on. Also take this quiz for ages 10-14 year old students.

For more education resources, visit www.SCsaferoutes.org under the Resources tab.