

Important information about the Green Cross Code

It is very important that the **Green Cross Code** isn't taught through verbal repetition only. Children should be taught how to cross the road in the real environment to offer practical experience. Choose a quiet road with good visibility, risk assess beforehand, ensure there is plenty of adult supervision and the correct child:adult ratios, and that all adults and children wear high visibility jackets. Younger children should always hold hands with an adult.

Approach crossing the road as a 'problem' of how to get safely to the other side – to be solved by the children themselves (with adult help.)

- Where is a safe place to cross? (Either a formal crossing or a place where visibility is good, there are no corners or junctions and preferably no parked cars.)
- Where should they stand? (On the pavement, near the edge but behind the kerb.)
- How should they look and what are they looking for? (All around for traffic, including bicycles and other quiet vehicles.)
- What are they listening for? (Traffic (vehicles). They may hear them before seeing them.)
- When should they cross? (When there is a safe gap in the traffic and they are certain there is plenty of time to get to the other side.)
- What should they keep doing whilst crossing? Why? (Keep looking and listening in case there is any traffic they didn't see, or it appears suddenly from a driveway or is approaching fast.)
- How should they cross (by walking straight across the road – they should not run in case they trip or fall)?

Once they have solved the problem of getting to the other side **THEN** tell them there is a code that they can learn to help them remember what to do: the **GREEN CROSS CODE**.



THINK

Find a safe place to cross.

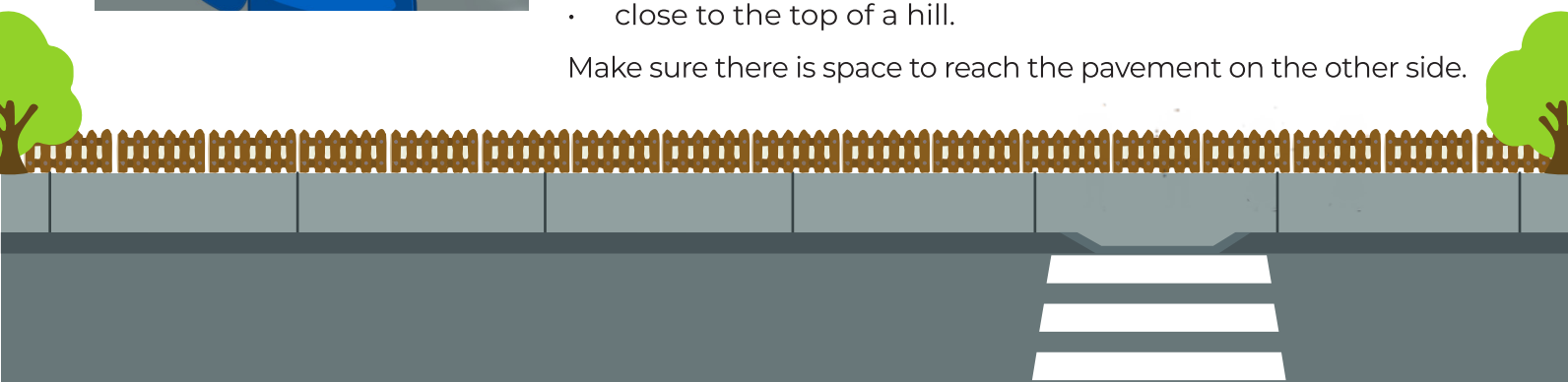
If you can, use a crossing. It might be a zebra crossing, or a pelican crossing with the green man.

If there is no crossing, stand where you can see cars coming and where drivers can see you.

Don't stand:

- between parked cars
- on sharp bends
- close to the top of a hill.

Make sure there is space to reach the pavement on the other side.





STOP

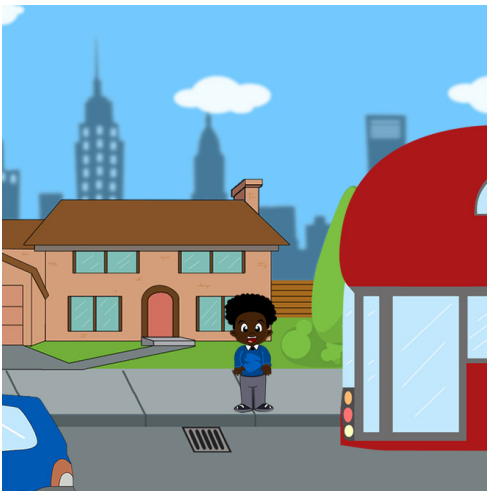
Stand on the pavement near the kerb, but don't get too close to the traffic. If there is no pavement, stay back but make sure you can see the traffic.

Give yourself lots of time to have a good look around.

USE YOUR EYES AND EARS

Look all around for traffic.

Listen carefully – you can sometimes hear traffic before you see it.



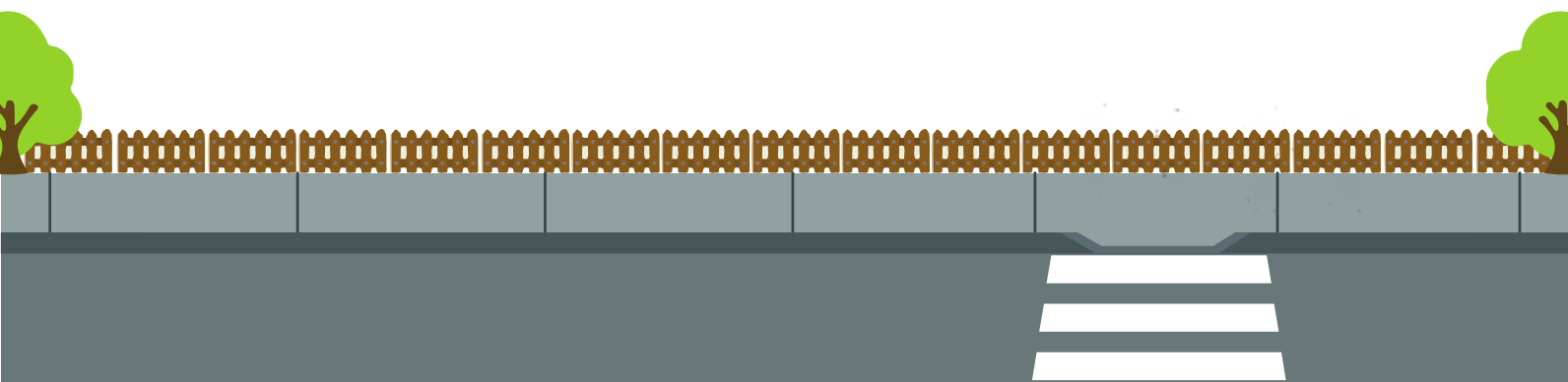
WAIT UNTIL IT IS SAFE TO CROSS

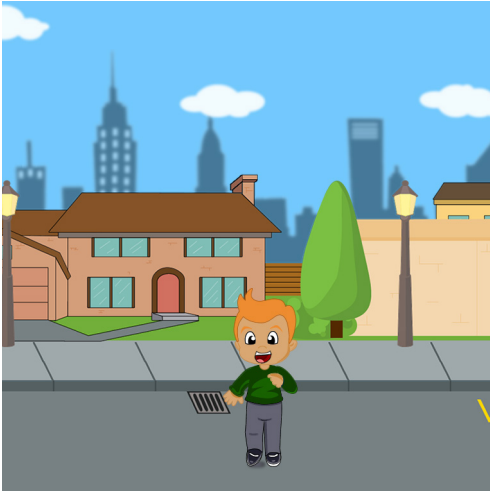
If traffic is coming, let it pass you.

Look all around again and listen.

Do not cross until there is a safe gap in the traffic and plenty of time to get to the other side.

Remember that cars may seem far away but be driving quickly.





LOOK AND LISTEN

When it is safe, go straight across the road.

Do not run.

Look and listen while you cross in case there is any traffic you did not see or it appears suddenly.

Look out for cyclists and motorcyclists travelling between lanes of traffic.

Do not cross diagonally.

CROSSING BETWEEN PARKED CARS

Try not to cross between parked cars. But if you must, choose a place where there is a space between them. And make sure you can easily get to the pavement on the other side of the road. Make sure neither car is about to move off – you can tell by looking for drivers in the cars, lights, and listening for engines.

Don't cross near large vehicles. You could be standing in a blind spot where the driver cannot see you.

Walk to the edge of the cars and stop. Here you can be seen by drivers, and you can look all around for traffic.

Cross when the road is clear, looking and listening as you go. Use the Green Cross Code.

