

2010

RIVING

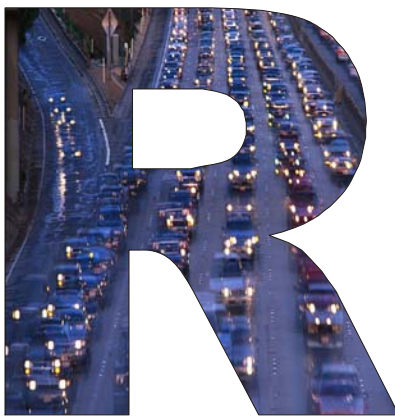


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IDE



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ROAD



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TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS EDUCATION CENTER



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A Letter to Teachers

In most Texas communities driving is the primary means of transportation. School-age children anxiously await their first drivers' license or the freedom to ride their bicycle without parental supervision. Traffic safety issues are pertinent to young people in your social studies or language arts classes to provide a foundation for understanding of rights and responsibilities as they learn about the proper operation of bicycles, scooters, ATVs and motor vehicles in Texas. Students can apply their existing knowledge of common rules and laws relating to traffic, enhancing the practical benefit of a civics lesson.

Traffic safety is real — not abstract or distanced. We hope that you will build upon your students' natural interest and curiosity surrounding driving to teach key concepts related to responsible citizenship and the structure of government: separation of powers and legal authority, while simultaneously decreasing each student's chance of becoming injured.

We encourage you to use guest speakers from the judiciary as a resource to assist in teaching the curriculum. Judges, lawyers, and court support personnel, as well as those working in law enforcement, can answer many of the questions that may arise, while giving your students an opportunity to interact with positive role models. Contact your local municipal judge and invite him or her to visit your classroom as a member of your academic team. Give the judge a specific topic to teach or lesson to use. The judge, for example, might help students identify the safe and unsafe behaviors on the "our Town" map. If you have trouble identifying local resource persons, please email us at TMCEC and we will assist you (tmcec@tmcec.com).

To support this curriculum is a set of *Information Sheets* which are available online at www.drsr.info. These are a work in progress. We have made an effort to include the most up-to-date information and data. Every day, however, new statistics are being released, and every two years the Legislature meets and changes our laws. The "For More Information" section contains references to internet sites with additional information. These, too, are subject to change. Please check the TMCEC website for the most recent information: www.drsr.info. We will continually revise these to bring you the most current materials available. We hope that you will modify these materials for the appropriate reading level of your students — they are available both as word documents and .pdf files on our website.

Our appreciation is also expressed to the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, and the Texas Regional Education Service Centers for providing the funding and resources to make this program possible.

Good luck in your classrooms in the upcoming year!

Hope Lochridge, TMCEC

Lisa Robinson, TMCEC

Jan Miller, State Bar of Texas

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Additional Resources

To support the DRSR program, the following materials are also available:

- Websites:
www.drsr.info www.tmcec.com www.texaslre.org
- Lesson Plans K-12 that are tied to the T.E.K.S.
K-3: Primary
Level I: Upper Elementary
Level II: Middle School
Level III: High School
- Substitute Lesson Plans
- Online learning games:
http://www.tmcec.com/DRSR/On-Line_LearningGames
- Mock Trials
- Children's Books in English & Spanish
- Audio of Children's Books in English & Spanish
- Skill Building Exercises:
2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, & 4th Grade Do Nows
- Sponge Book
- Judges as Resource Persons in the Classroom

And much more.....



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Driving on the Right Side of the Road

K-3

LEVEL ONE

Map of Dos and Don'ts	-----	Level One-3
Traffic Safety Match-up	-----	Level One-9
Rules of the Road	-----	Level One-20
A Decision for the City Council on the Street or Off the Street	-----	Level One-54

LEVEL TWO

Map of Dos and Don'ts	-----	Level Two-3
X Car O (Celebrity Tic, Tac, Toe)	-----	Level Two-7
In the Driver's Seat: Do You Have What It Takes To Be a Good Driver In Texas?	-----	Level Two-37
Rules of the Road	-----	Level Two-43

LEVEL THREE

Map of Dos and Don'ts	-----	Level Three-3
License to Drive—Framing the Problem	-----	Level Three-7
Just Breathe	-----	Level Three-12
Safe Driver—It's in the Cards	-----	Level Three-24
How a Bill Moves Through the Texas Legislature	-----	Level Three-33
Evaluating Proposed Traffic Safety Legislation	-----	Level Three-59

RESOURCE SECTION

Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?	-----	Resource-3
Pick Six	-----	Resource-11
Evaluation	-----	Resource-21
Request Resources Form	-----	Resource-22