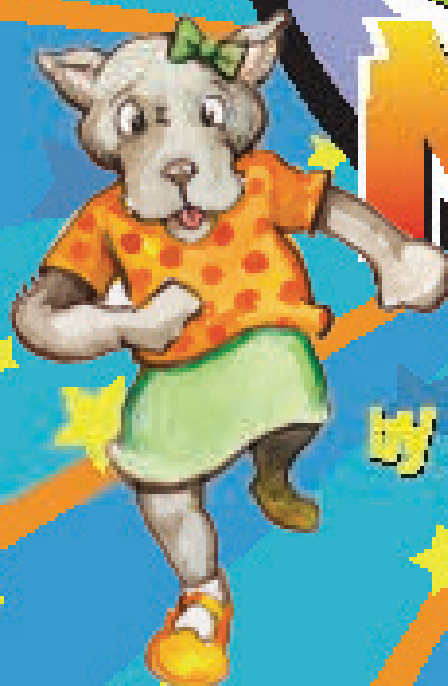


SAFE NOT SORRY



For more information on traffic safety:

www.tmccec.com/drsr
www.texaslre.org



by Hope Lockwood Illustrated by Nathan Jensen



About Driving on the Right Side of the Road


This publication is a part of the Driving on the Right Side of the Road (DRSR) program, developed by the Law-Related Education Department of the State Bar of Texas, Law Focused Education, Inc., and the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center with funding from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and the Texas Department of Transportation. These organizations are very concerned about traffic safety in Texas communities. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 5-20 year olds in the United States. Young children are often hurt if they do not sit in a booster seat, do not wear their safety belt, do not obey traffic signals, or fail to wear protective equipment when bicycling, rollerblading, or skateboarding. The purpose of the DRSR program is to offer a preventive educational resource to encourage responsible decision-making and adherence to safe practices when children are in a car, on the street, or out in public.

DRSR has created a series of lessons for social studies classes at the elementary and secondary levels on citizenship education and traffic safety. The program is aligned with the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills), which all students are tested on in Texas public schools. Upper grade level lessons use student-centered, interactive strategies to teach traffic safety while studying city, state, and national government, the three branches of government, and the responsibilities of citizenship. Elementary lessons also use traffic safety content to teach language arts and math skills. Traffic safety games and information are also available on the DRSR website.

DRSR's Information Sheets provide teachers with background information about traffic laws and municipal court. DRSR can assist teachers in contacting local municipal judges, court support personnel, and city prosecutors to ask them to serve as resource persons in the classroom. Resource persons can bring the lessons alive by providing real life or hypothetical examples, accurate descriptions of what the law requires, and serve as positive role models for students.

We thank you for using these materials in your classrooms.

For more information and resources, please visit:
www.drsr.info www.texaslre.org www.tmcec.com



When you are young,
you have to be extra
careful!

Safe

Not Sorry

by Hope Lochridge

Illustrated by Nathan Jensen

When riding in a car



- You must sit in a child safety seat or booster seat if under the height/age requirement.
- Be sure to buckle up!
- Make sure the shoulder strap is properly placed.
- Keep your arms and legs inside the car, please.
- Do not throw anything in or outside the car.
- You are safest in the back seat.



The Rules



Birth to at least 1 Year, Up to 35 Pounds

- Rear-facing child safety seat in the back seat

1–3 Years, 20 to 40 Pounds or more

- Rear-facing for as long as possible, then a forward-facing seat, in the back seat

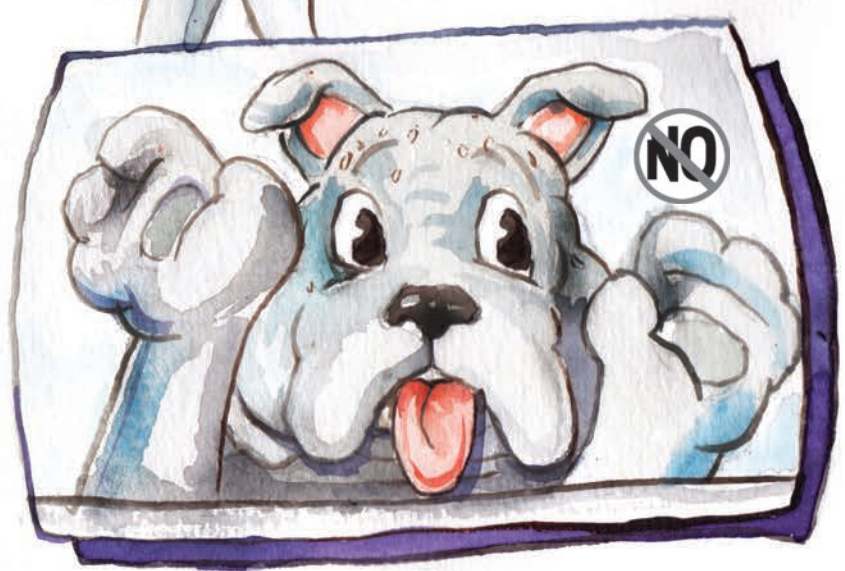
4–7 Years, Usually over 40 Pounds, up to 4'9"

- Booster seat in the back seat

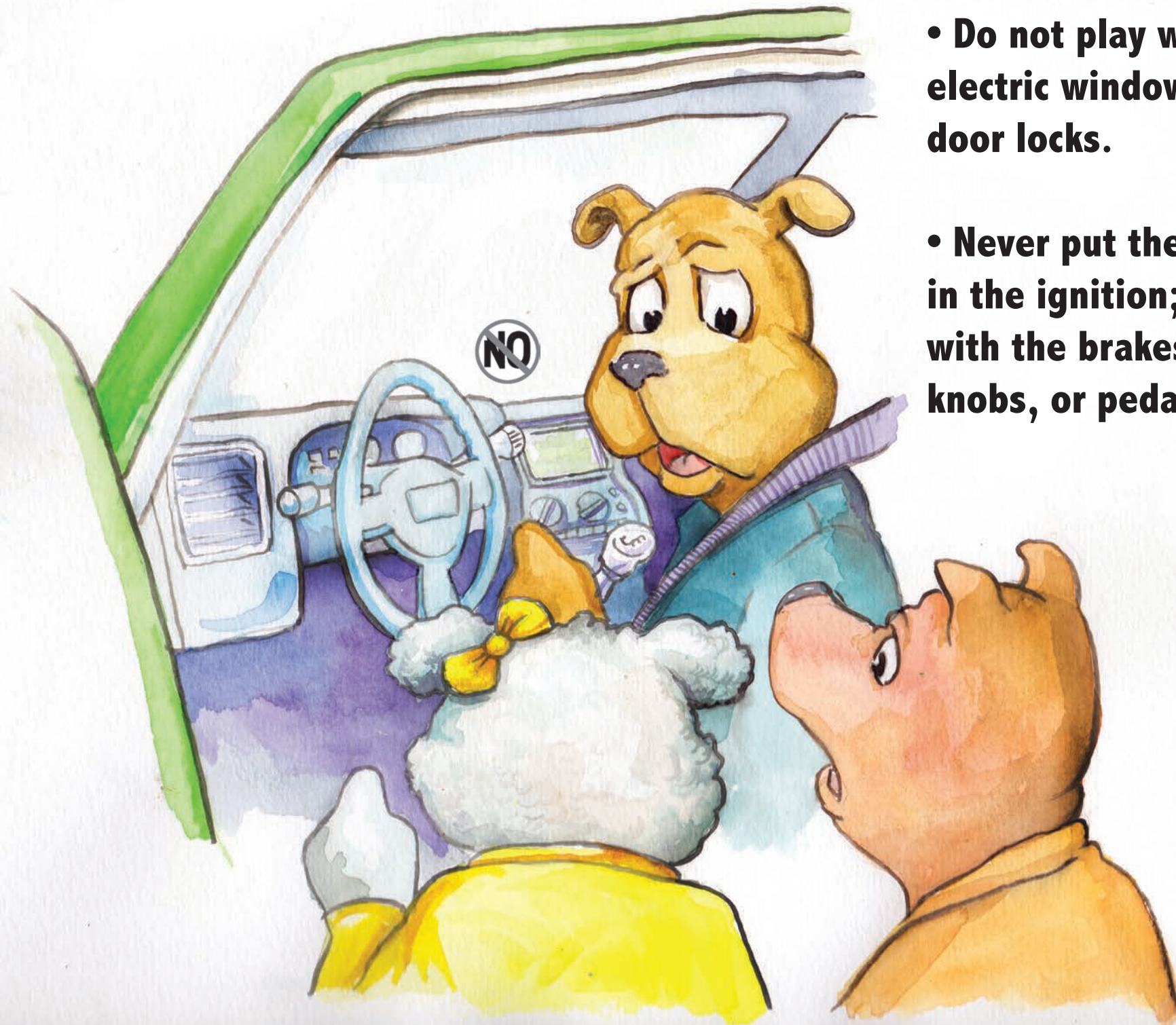
8+ Years, Over 4'9" tall

- An adult seat belt, in the back seat, if it fits properly
- Children should not ride in the front seat until about age 13

• **Trunks are for storing items;
not for playing.**



• **Never stay alone in a car;
even if the doors are locked.
This is especially important
on hot days.**

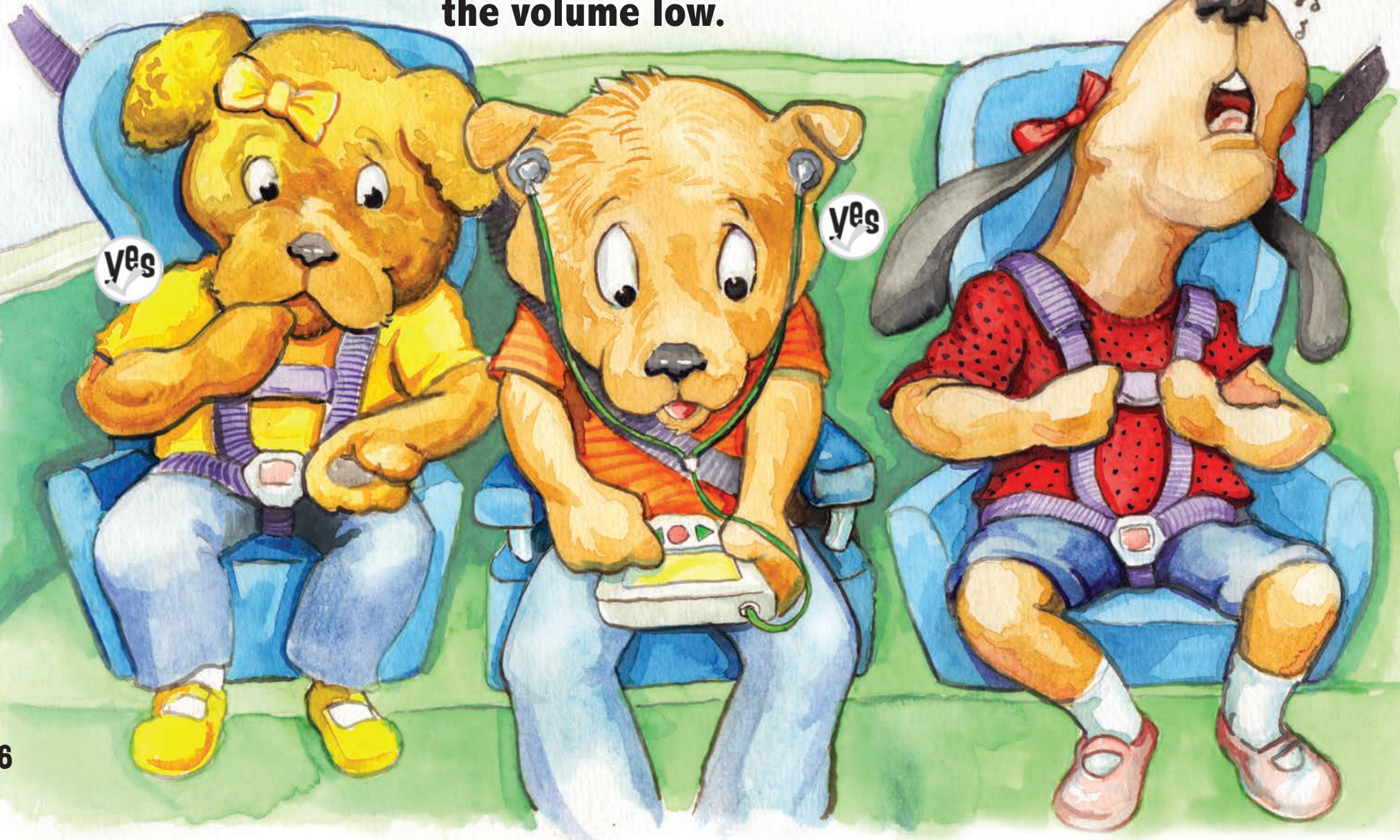


- **Do not play with the electric windows or door locks.**
- **Never put the keys in the ignition; Or fool with the brakes, gears, knobs, or pedals.**

- Do not distract the driver with lots of noise or questions.

- Talk or sing softly.

- If you are playing a video game or listening to music, keep the volume low.



Remind your driver To

- Buckle Up!
- Don't text and drive.
- Use cell phone only in emergencies while in the car.
- Never drink alcohol and drive.
- Obey all traffic signs and symbols.



When on a school bus



- Listen to the driver.
- Stand back at least 5 feet from the curb while waiting.
- Hold onto the handrail.
- Cross the street 10 steps in front of the bus.



When riding a bicycle



- Always wear a helmet on your bicycle.

- Put reflectors on your bike.

- Keep your hands on the handlebars.

- Walk your bike across intersections.

- Use hand signals.

- Be visible. Be well lit. Add a bright white light to the front of your bike and a red light to the back.



When walking



- Stay on the sidewalk.
- Hold hands.
- Walk, don't run, across intersections.
- Make sure that your pet is on a leash and can't run out into the street.
- Wear reflective clothes or stickers at night.





- **Be sure to obey traffic signs.**

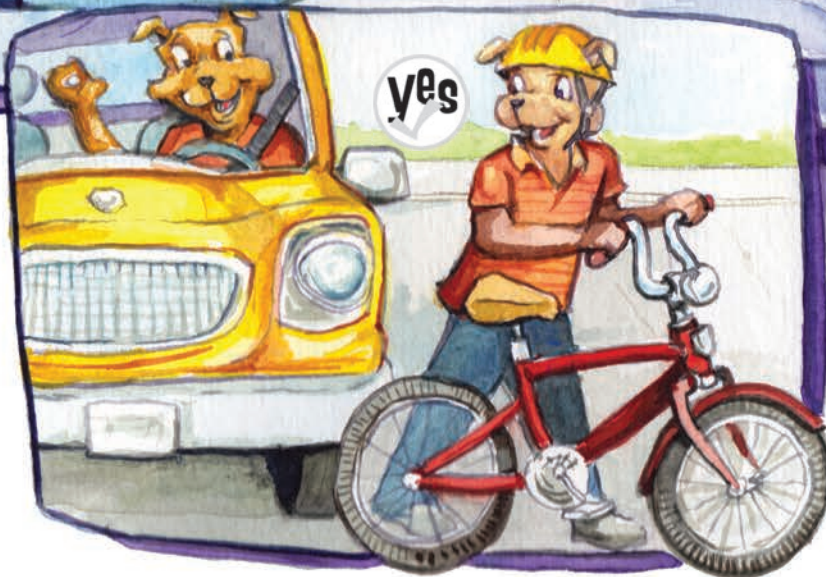
- **Use the crosswalk when crossing the street.**

- **Look left, right, and left before you cross.**

**Drivers usually cannot see you in parking lots;
Or behind bushes and shrubs that line a street.**

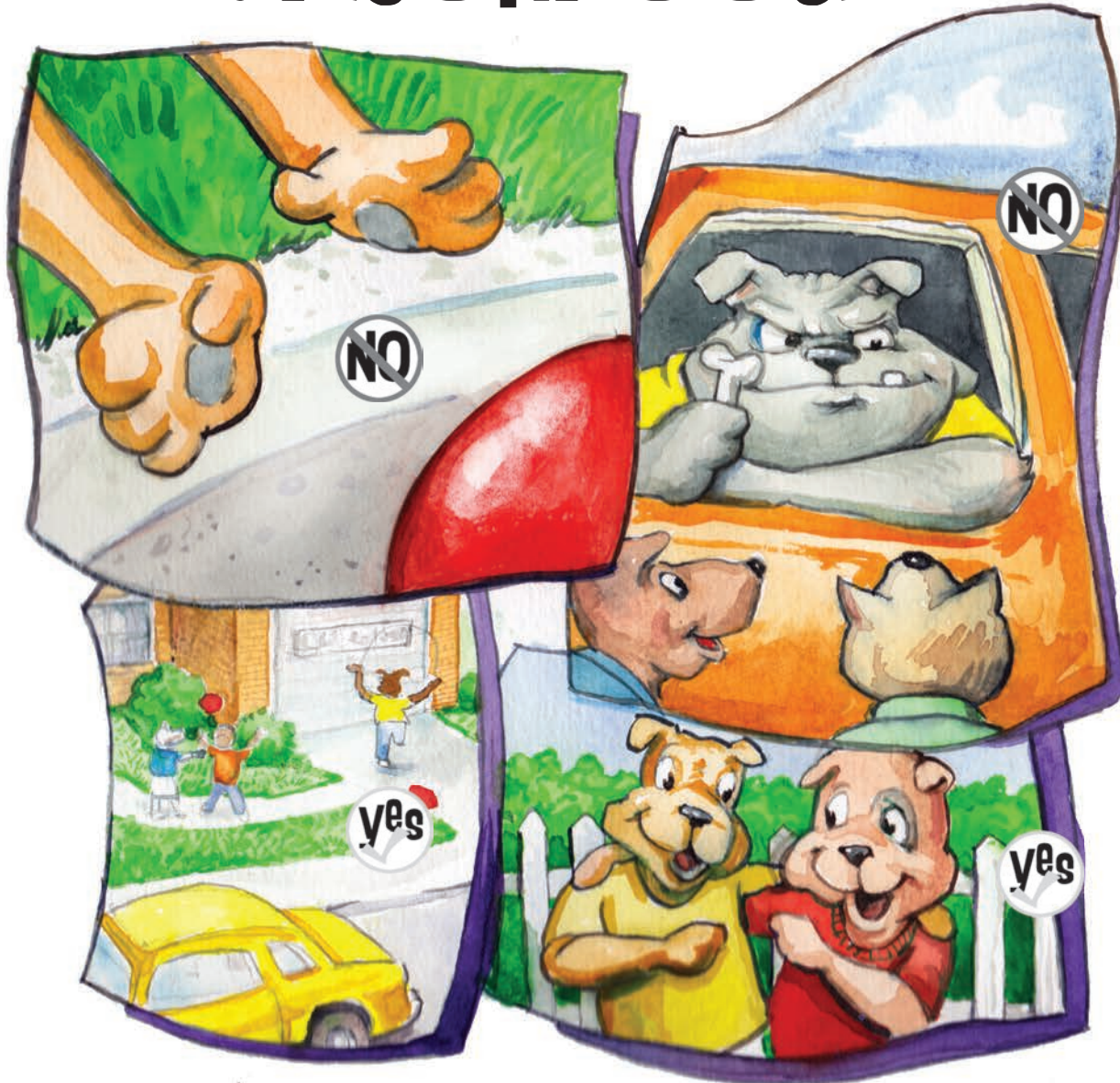


13



**Always walk your bike
in a parking lot.**

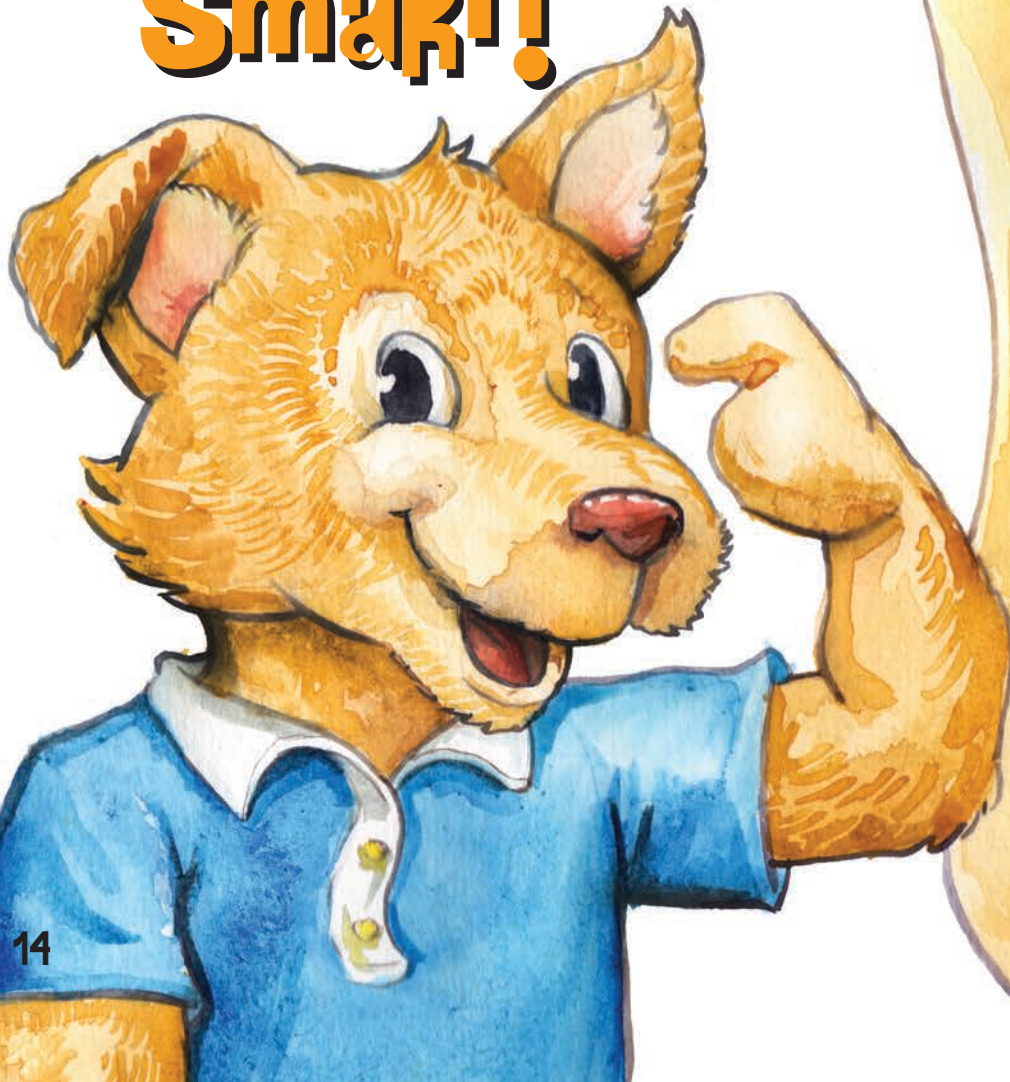
When playing in your neighborhood



- Don't chase a ball into the street without looking first for cars.
- Play in the front yard or at a park; not in the street.
- Don't talk to strangers.
- Remember the buddy system.

So, Be Safe—Not Sorry!
Accidents can be prevented.

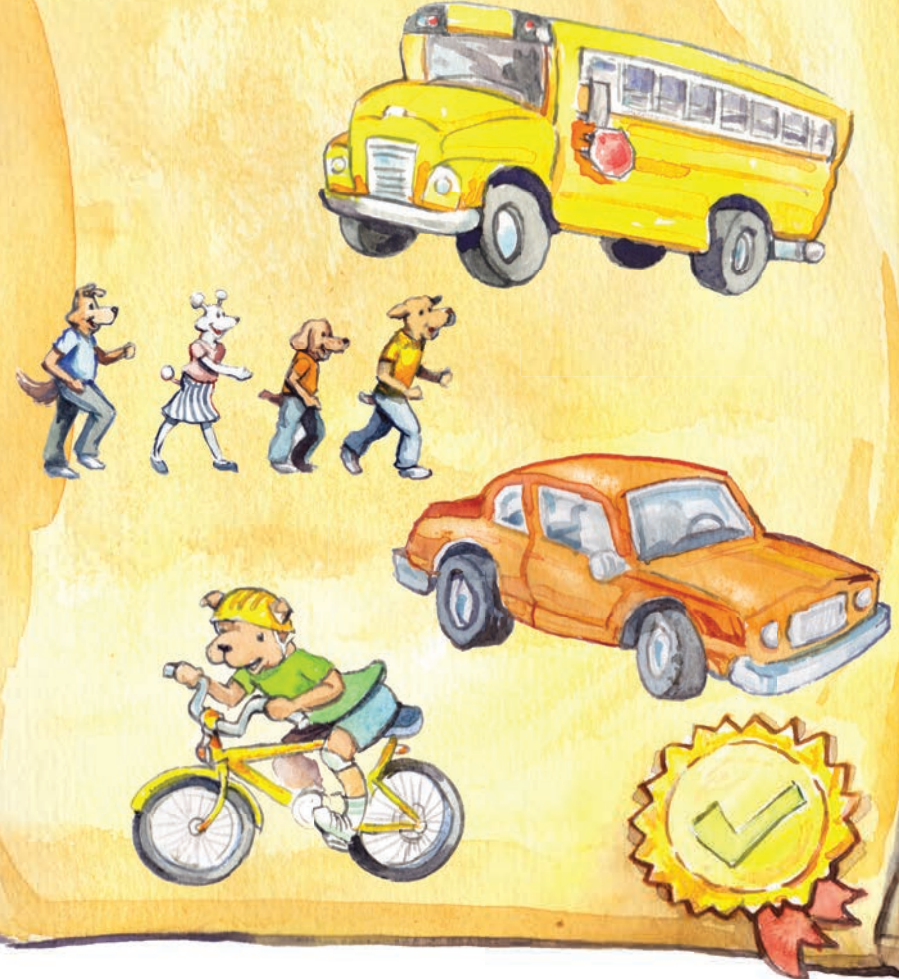
BE STREET SMART!



I, _____
signed

**will obey all traffic
safety rules.**

**I will help others remember
to be safe, too.**

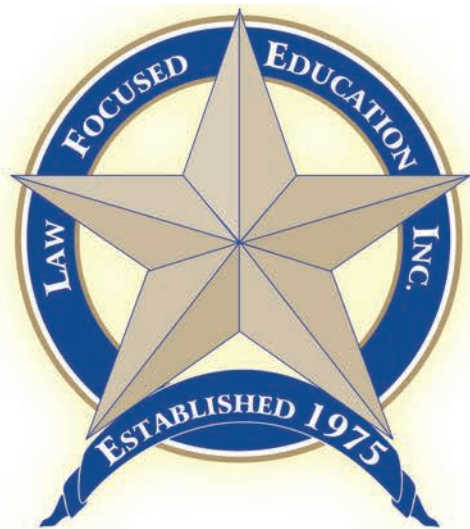


Check for Understanding!

Put a check in the column indicating whether it is
Safe **Unsafe**

	Remind your Dad to not text & drive		
	Sit in the back seat in a booster seat		
	Sing loudly with your friends in the carpool		
	Wear reflective clothes or stickers when walking at night		
	Play in the trunk of your Aunt's car		
	Play tag in the grocery store parking lot		
	Cross at the crosswalk		
	Look left, right, left before crossing		
	Throw a toy at your sister in the car		
	Remind everyone in the car to buckle up!		
	Walk on the sidewalk		
	Run into a street after a toy or pet		
	Stand behind a parked car in a parking lot		
	Wear your helmet on your bike		
	Stay alone in a car as long as the doors are locked		
	Play with the car's windows and door locks		
	Stand back at least 5 feet from the curb while waiting for the bus		
	Have a white light on the front and red light on the back of your bicycle		
	Ride your bike without hands across an intersection		
	Use the buddy system		





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Save a Life™

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