

Do you see me?



SCHOOL BUS SAFETY CAMPAIGN

JANUARY 31 TO FEBRUARY 11, 2011

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY SHEET
for preschoolers and elementary students



An essential safety campaign

From January 31 to February 11, 2011, the Association du transport écolier du Québec (ATEQ) will hold a school bus safety campaign in collaboration with many partners, including the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ). The theme **Do you see me?** speaks directly to school children, who must make sure they are seen by the bus driver whenever they go near or get off a school bus. Children must also be seen by other road users, whether they are going to the bus stop or crossing in front of the bus.



The school community: an important player in the safety of school children

Parents and teachers are natural allies when it comes to reminding students about school bus safety rules. With this in mind, the ATEQ and its partners have released the eighth book for children in the Collection Bubusse series.



An educational book

Sam and Bloop Go to the Sugar Shack is intended as a support resource for school bus safety activities for preschoolers and elementary school students. The book aims to help students understand that they are responsible for their own safety in and around the school bus and so they must understand safety rules and apply them at all times. The book comes with a poster that introduces the main characters and the theme of the campaign. We encourage you to prominently display the poster in your classroom and to explain the theme to your students.



How to use the book

With preschoolers and cycle one elementary students:

- Read the school bus safety rules on the back of this leaflet and discuss them with your students.
- Direct the students' attention to the questions asked by Bubusse, the school bus mascot.
- With your students, find a recipe that calls for maple syrup. Explain how following every step of the recipe is important for it to turn out right, and why every step is important. Use this opportunity to draw a parallel with school bus safety. For example, compare having to walk ten steps before crossing in front of the bus with using great caution when making maple syrup to avoid burns.
- Remind students that staying alert is important to avoid accidents, whether in the kitchen or around the school bus.
- Lend the book to one student every day throughout February so they can read it at home with a parent. Parental involvement is crucial to adopting good behaviour.

With cycle two elementary students:

- Review the school bus safety rules on page 12 of the book.
- Circulate the book among the students, then talk to them about the importance of making sure they are seen when they go near a school bus or when they cross in front of one.
- Have them answer the questions asked by Bubusse, the school bus mascot.
- Suggest doing a research project about maple products, their origin, tools that are used for making them and the traditional foods served at the sugar shack.

With cycle three elementary students:

- Review the school bus safety rules on page 12 of the book.
- Ask them to read the book and find the answers to the games on page 11.
- Suggest that students introduce the book to younger students and thus become safety sponsors.
- Using safety rules that you have chosen, ask the students to create a new adventure for Sam and to illustrate it. Send the best project to the ATEQ, and it just might become the next book in the Collection Bubusse series!
- Start a discussion with students about the importance of obeying school bus safety rules and the impact unsafe behaviour can have.
- Discuss risks associated with wearing earphones while waiting for the school bus and when getting off the bus.

In collaboration with all the teachers:

- Hold a school-wide drawing contest in connection with the theme of the **Do you see me?** campaign, where each student illustrates one school bus safety rule. Drawings can be numbered and posted on school walls so that students can vote to determine the winners.



A safety message for parents

Some motorists, often parents in a hurry, engage in dangerous conduct near school buses, whether they are on the road, in a school zone, or even in their child's school yard. This considerably increases the risk of accidents or unfortunate incidents.

Give each student a **Do you see me?** leaflet for them to give their parents. This message calls on parents to exercise caution on the road and encourages them to review safety rules with their child.



Extra activities

THE ASSOCIATION DU TRANSPORT ÉCOLIER DU QUÉBEC, AN ALLY

Several resources are available on the website of the Association du transport écolier du Québec, www.ateq.qc.ca :

- The first seven books in the Collection Bubusse series: **Sam and Bloop Run into Trouble**, **Sam and Bloop Go to the Theatre**, **Sam and Bloop Go Ice-Fishing**, **Sam and Bloop at Field Day**, **Sam and Bloop Plant a Tree**, **Sam and Bloop Celebrate Valentine's Day** and **Sam and Bloop the Magicians**, published between 2004 and 2010, may be downloaded. Additional safety rules are also presented. The complete Bubusse Collection, which includes eight books, is available for purchase.
- A safety campaign organizational guide.

OTHER INTERESTING IDEAS

During this important province-wide awareness raising campaign, most ATEQ member school bus carriers organize numerous activities on school bus safety in collaboration with their school boards and local police forces. Don't hesitate to call upon the carriers who serve your school. They are available to help you do classroom activities, carry out simulations around a school bus and more.

ON THE ROAD OF DRAGONS!

The SAAQ invites you to use the **On the Road of Dragons!** DVD package. This resource for preschoolers and first cycle elementary students is designed to raise awareness of the risks involved in travelling to school, whether on foot or on a school bus. In 2008, copies of the DVD and accompanying activity guide were distributed to elementary schools throughout Quebec as well as to the school bus carriers responsible for the school board safety campaigns. The DVD is free of copyright, so it may be copied, and the accompanying guide can be downloaded from the SAAQ website: www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca.

Remember
to enter the contest
on page 12.
More than \$3,100
in prizes from the ATEQ
will be drawn





**Reread the
safety rules
often**

I go to the bus stop early to avoid running.
I stay in line to wait for the bus without shoving others.
I wait until the bus has come to a full stop before approaching it.
I get on the bus in single file and hold onto the handrail.
I go straight to my seat and sit down.
I leave nothing in the aisle.
I avoid distracting the driver.
I keep my things in my bag.
I keep my head and my arms inside the bus at all times.
I do not throw food or other things out the window or onto the floor of the bus.
I remain seated at all times until the bus has come to a full stop.
I move away from the bus as soon as I get off, and I stay away from the wheels.
I count ten steps after getting off the bus before crossing in front.
I make sure the driver has seen me before I cross in front of the bus.
I check for traffic to the left, to the right and to the left again before crossing the road.
I wait for the driver's okay before trying to get something I dropped that has rolled under the bus. If I cannot speak to the driver, I wait until the bus has left before picking up the object.
I never go behind a school bus.