APS SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
MAKE YOUR OWN MAP

WALK/BIKE ROUTE MAP

Before the pandemic, did you walk or bike to school? Are you planning to walk or bike when you return to your school campus? Are there other places you walk or bike to in your neighborhood?

Now, before schools reopen, is a great time to practice a walking or biking route from your neighborhood to school! If you take the school bus, then you can practice a walking route to your bus stop.

Better yet, *draw your own personal map*! Identify some features and elements of your route. Take notes. Go back and take photos. Make it your own, have fun and be creative!

Follow these steps to create your very own Walk or Bike Map

◉◉ Choose a destination in your neighborhood that you can walk or bike to. School, a park, a store, a friend's house are good examples. Talk with your parent or caregiver about your choice and ask them to join you.

◉◉ Do you already know how to get to your destination? Then ask your parent or caregiver if you can go alone or if they can go with you. You could even think about inviting a friend. If you do that, be sure to wear a mask and practice social distancing.

◉◉ Do you need help figuring out how to get to your destination? Then ask your parent or caregiver to help you plan your route–and make sure they can go with you.

◉◉ During your walk/ride pay attention to your surroundings. What streets do you cross? Are there interesting things to see, like a really big tree or a friend's home? Are there places where your trip is difficult, maybe because there isn't a sidewalk or there is a street that is hard to cross? Maybe time how many minutes it takes to get where you are going. Is it any different going back?

◉◉ When you get home, use the blank page included here or grab a sheet of paper, some markers, colored pencils or crayons and draw a map of your route. Draw your home on one end of the paper and then your destination on the other. Then draw your route. Include the things you observed along the way and any details that matter to you! Make the map as detailed and colorful as you want. Give your map a name, like "My Walk/Bike to School."

◉◉ When you have finished drawing your map, use a **green** marker, pencil or crayon to identify one or two parts of the route that are your favorite. Then use a **red** marker, pencil or crayon to show one or two parts of the route that were difficult or that you didn't like.

◉◉ If you would like you can travel your route again and add to your map.
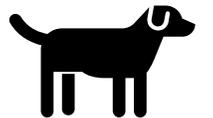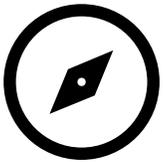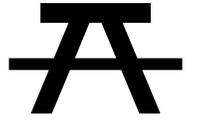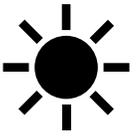
BE SAFE and BE SEEN

Before you head out, review these safety tips!

Safety Tips
For Drivers, Pedestrians and Bicyclists

FOR DRIVERS:

- **STOP FOR PEDESTRIANS** at crosswalks and be careful when passing stopped vehicles.
- **SLOW DOWN** and obey the posted speed limit.
- **YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS & CYCLISTS** when turning.
- **LOOK** before opening your door.
- **ALLOW 3 FEET** when passing bicyclists.

FOR PEDESTRIANS:

- **CROSS THE STREET AT MARKED CROSSWALKS** and intersections.
- **BEFORE CROSSING, LOOK** left, right, then left again.
- **USE PEDESTRIAN PUSHBUTTONS.**
- **BEGIN CROSSING THE STREET ON "WALK"** signal.
- **STAY VISIBLE AFTER DARK** and in bad weather.
- **WATCH OUT FOR TRUCKS AND BUSES** backing out of parking spaces and driveways.

FOR BICYCLISTS:

- **OBEY ALL REGULATORY SIGNS** and traffic lights.
- **NEVER RIDE AGAINST TRAFFIC.** Ride with traffic to avoid potential accidents.
- **USE HAND SIGNALS** to tell motorists what you intend to do.
- **RIDE IN A STRAIGHT LINE** to the right of traffic and about a car door width away from parked cars.
- **ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET.** Helmets dramatically reduce the risk of head injury in a bicycle accident.
- **USE LIGHTS AT NIGHT** and when visibility is poor.

- **PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS** should watch for turning vehicles.
- **MOTORISTS MUST YIELD** to cyclists and pedestrians when turning.

STREET ///SMART
BeStreetSmart.net
A public safety program of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia