



## Streets for people – explore

Support students to learn about how streets can be designed as safe and friendly places that support independent travel for people of all ages.

This plan includes 2 activities to explore their local streets:

- a walk
- classroom follow-up.

## NZ Curriculum area: Social Sciences

### Level 1

Understand that people have different roles and responsibilities as part of their participation in groups.

### Level 2

Understand that people have social, cultural, and economic roles, rights, and responsibilities.

Understand how people make choices to meet their needs and wants.

### Level 3

Understand how people view and use places differently.

Understand how people make decisions about access to and use of resources.

### Level 4

Understand how exploration and innovation create opportunities and challenges for people, places, and environments.

Understand that events have causes and effects.

# Activity for your group: exploring our streets (A)

## All ages (15-20 mins)

With your group of students go for a walk to explore the local roads around their school or local community. Getting parents or whānau to help could be very beneficial.

### On your walk

Use your senses – what do you see, hear, smell?

Take photos, video, sketch, record street noises, or take notes.

### These questions can prompt discussions:

#### People

- How many different road users can we see?
- Who is using the space?
- How are they using the space, what are they up to?
- What sounds can you hear?
- Does the road feel safe as a pedestrian?
- Why do you feel safe or why do you feel unsafe?

#### Road infrastructure

- What road infrastructure can we see? (Check they understand what infrastructure means)
- What is the purpose of this infrastructure?
- How does it help people using the roads?
- What road signs can you see? Do you know what they mean?
- What do you see here to help keep us safe?

#### Hazards

- What do we need to be aware of when we are travelling in this area?
- Can we see anything that would make it hard for some people to travel around in this area?
- What possible road safety hazards can you describe?

# Activity for your group: exploring our streets (B): after your walk

## All ages (15 mins)

Reflect on your walk – use Google Street View to prompt your reflections or draw a map and mark on it everything that you could see on your walk.

Discuss: What challenges might people walking, riding, or driving have as they're trying to get around safely?

### Read this statement to the group:

*Our streets can be places children move around freely and independently – on separate bike paths, spacious footpaths, and on buses or trains – so parents and whānau can be free from worry. Our streets can be friendly, shared spaces where children move around, play, and can connect with each other.*

### Do our streets look and feel like that?

Yes – in what ways?

No – how could we change that? For example, slowing down, less car parking, footpaths or wider footpaths, cycle lanes, more trees, gardens, or other infrastructure such as:

- traffic signs
- road markings
- road humps or speed cushions
- narrower roads
- traffic islands
- one-way traffic systems.

Identify specific road safety hazards.

Identify people in society who can help fix these hazards such as:

- local council.

## Glossary

**Hazards:** a danger or risk.

**Pedestrian:** any person on foot or who is using a powered wheelchair or mobility scooter, or a wheeled device propelled by human power, other than a cycle.

**Road humps:** a raised band across a road, designed to make people driving reduce their speed, especially in built-up areas.

**Road infrastructure:** road infrastructure includes physical assets like the roads themselves, as well as everything associated with them, for example bus stops, signage, drainage, cycle lanes, shared pathways, and structures such as bridges or tunnels.

**Road users:** people who use the road network, including people who walk, scooter, cycle, and drive.

**Traffic calming:** changes to the road environment to reduce driver speed and volume. Such as: road humps, speed cushions.

**Traffic islands:** islands in the middle of the road. These reduce traffic space which reduces speed and can offer a safer crossing facility for people walking.