

Bus Buddies

LEVEL: K-1-2-3-4-5-6

SUBJECT AREA(S): Health, Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, Art

OBJECTIVE: (1) Students will know how to ride and behave properly on a public bus. (2) Students will master Transfort bus rules by playing a card game based on Transfort signs.

TIME:

Day 1: 25 to 30 minutes

Day 2: 25 to 30 minutes

MATERIALS

- φ Figure 12-1: Transfort Signs
- φ Figure 12-2: No Fare Cards
- φ Figure 12-3: Bus Buddies Checklist and Parent/Guardian Letter

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

1. Distribute Figure 12-1: Transfort Signs. Discuss with students what they think each sign means. Discuss the reasons for the rules the signs illustrate.

For Your Information

Transfort Sign	Meaning/Reason for Doing
Fold Strollers Before Boarding	To provide room for passengers.
Do Not Stand on Stairs	It's dangerous.
No Amplified Music	Passengers must respect other passengers' peace and quiet.
Fare Receipt Required	You must pay if you're going to ride.
Side Seats for Disabled & Senior	Certain seats are reserved for disabled and senior citizens.
No Food or Drink	It could get awfully sloppy otherwise.
Keep Head and Hands Inside Bus	Accidents may happen otherwise.
No Smoking	This is the law everywhere for public spaces.
Pets Must Be in a Carrier	So they won't scare other passengers, and other passengers won't scare your pets.
Keep Your Stereo Personal	It's a matter of peace and quiet.

- Discuss with students the different coins they can use when they need 95 cents for Tri-Met's discounted student fare.

For Your Information

- ★ For this activity, you may want to provide play money.

- Have students role-play getting on and off a Transfort bus.

✓	To Do
	Set up an area to role-play riding the bus.
	Arrange a seat at the front for a driver.
	Arrange chairs two-by-two with an aisle down the middle.
	Arrange a few chairs to face the aisle (reserved for senior citizens and people with disabilities).
	Allot space for passengers in wheelchairs.
	Arrange passenger exits at the front of the bus.
	Select someone to be the bus driver.
	Have five or six students role-play getting on the bus, paying bus fare, and sitting down.
	Have students role-play signaling the driver that they want to get off at the next stop.

For Your Information

- ★ Passengers must board and leave through the front door..
 - ★ Every Transfort bus driver has a radio. If a passenger needs help he/she should tell the driver, who can call Dispatch to get help.
4. Divide the class into groups of four or five. Give each group a set of Figure 12-2: NO FARE cards. Explain how to play the game.

For Your Information

- ★ Rules of the No Fare Game
 1. Deal entire deck to players.
 2. Player to left of dealer goes first.
 3. During his/her turn, each player draws a card from the hand of any other player.
 4. If a match is drawn, the player lays the match down on the table. Players keep drawing from each other until all the cards have been matched and placed on the table.
 5. When only one card is left, the game is over, and the player holding that card, the NO FARE card, is stuck without bus fare.
5. Distribute Figure 12-3: Bus Buddies Checklist and Parent/Guardian Letter to each student. Go over the checklist with the entire class. Have students find an adult or older student when they go home who will be their bus buddy to accompany them on a real ride on a Transfort bus.

ASSESSMENT

Discuss the returned Bus Buddies Checklists with students. Have students tell about their experiences with their bus buddies and their Bus Buddies Checklists.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Please refer to the following topics in the *Additional Resources* section in Appendix Three: **Bus Safety / Child Safety/Injury Prevention / Mass Transit / Traffic & Traffic Signs.**







(date)

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Your child's class is learning about using the mass-transit system. Please review the Transfort Signs information about passenger rules and help her/him learn the coins necessary to equal the youth fare of 95 cents.

Most important, please arrange to take a bus ride with your child, or to have another adult or an older student do so. Whoever becomes the bus buddy of your child should fill out the bottom of this sheet, so your child may return it for class credit.

Thank you.

(teacher's signature)

(name of student)

Please circle the number of each activity completed by your bus buddy.

1. Had the correct amount (95 cents) ready to pay a bus fare or had a ticket to board.
2. Did not enter the bus until departing riders had gotten off.
3. Sat in an appropriate place on the bus (not in senior-citizen seats, not on the steps) and remained seated until time to get off.
4. Did not eat on the bus or put head or arms out the window.
5. Did not disrupt other passengers with loud noise or talking.
6. Knows how to signal the driver that he/she want to get off at the next stop.
7. Did not walk in front of the bus at any time.

(bus buddy's signature)

(date)

Figure 12-3