Riding on the Road and through Intersections

LESSON PLAN OVERVIEW

SUGGESTED GRADE LEVEL
K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

SUGGESTED TIME
one class period

SETTING
auditorium classroom gymnasium outside

LEARNING STYLE ACCESS
auditory kinesthetic visual

OVERVIEW
The five key rules for bikes
• Ride in the Same Direction as Traffic
• Obey All Traffic Signs
• Ride on the Road
• Use Hand Signals
• Stay to the Right
But what happens when they travel through intersections? We will draw the proper road positioning for each type of turn.

MATERIALS
Intersection overhead, Intersection worksheets, 1 per student

VOCABULARY
law, enforcement, severity of punishment, liability, predictable

MODIFICATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
Larger print

MODIFICATIONS FOR USE IN LOW INCOME SCHOOLS
None needed

IMPRESSIONS
A seemingly dull topic that can generate a lot of participation with the right energy from the teacher. Get kids up and out of their seats to help- consider purchasing some laser pointers or set up a Velcro/magnetic intersection diagram- Adjust language for NJ!

SOURCE
Bicycle Transportation Alliance
Bicycle ridership and safety

WHAT ARE THE TRAFFIC LAWS?

Bikes generally must follow the same rules of the road as automobiles. Therefore when we teach you the rules of the road for bicycling, you are also learning how to drive a car. Riding on the sidewalk is dangerous and is only recommended for children ages 9 and under.

A “bicycle” means a vehicle. ORS 801.150.

Helmets always first. The Helmet Law: “A person commits an offense... if the person is under 16 years of age...operates or rides a bicycle...on premises open to the public and is not wearing protective headgear.” ORS 814.408, Section 2.

Bicycles must act like cars. “Every person riding a bicycle upon a public way is subject to the provisions applicable to and has the same rights and duties as the driver of any other vehicle.” ORS 814.400.

There are some valid reasons for riding with traffic/like an automobile:

- The law requires cyclists to ride with traffic (in the same direction as cars).
- Motorists do not expect to see traffic coming in the opposite direction. In order to be seen bicyclists must ride where motorists expect to see traffic, on the right.
- Wrong-way riding results in nearly one fourth of all car/bike crashes.
- Traffic control devices (i.e. stop signs and traffic lights) face the normal flow of traffic.
- Cyclists who ride with the traffic, on the right, face the danger of a head-on crash with a wrong-way rider.

Bike lanes. In Oregon bicyclists are supposed to ride in bike lanes when they are provided unless when turning or if the bicyclist doesn’t feel that it is safe. While in the bike lane, bicyclists possess additional right-of-way privileges. In fact, bicyclists can legally pass on the right side of cars and cars are not allowed to turn in front of bicyclists in bike lanes. Bicyclists should still remain cautious of cars when in bike lanes.

The five key rules for bikes

1. Ride in the Same Direction as Traffic
2. Obey All Traffic Signs
3. Ride on the Road
4. Use Hand Signals
5. Stay to the Right

ORS means Oregon Revised Statute.

Skateboards, rollerblades and scooters in some areas have the same responsibilities as bicycles, which means that they have to follow the rules of the road, not act like a walker. This means that they have to give audible calls when passing walkers on the sidewalk and have to be especially careful when traveling across intersections because cars do not expect people in the crosswalk to be moving quickly through the intersection.
As said above, bicyclists must ride on the right. But what happens when they travel through intersections? We will draw the proper road positioning for each type of turn.

1 Teachers should draw intersections or use the intersection handout (see page 99) to make an overhead or worksheets for students to label along with them. Each lane of travel should be labeled with three positions, 1 (inside), 2 (middle), 3 (outside or right) and the direction of travel should be indicated. When demonstrating turning, show normal placement of travel (on right), and then proper turning positions. Follow the below examples.

**Intersection 1. Straight**

The bicyclist normally rides in position 3, 3 feet from the curb, and remains in position 3 when going straight through an intersection. Bicyclists often move into position 2 when there are parked cars or hazards on the side of the road.
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**Intersection 2. Right**

The bicyclist normally rides in position 3 and remains in position 3 when turning right through an intersection.

**Intersection 3. Left**

The bicyclist normally rides in position 3 but when turning left, they must move to position 1. To get to position 1 they must look back and check for traffic, signal left and then signal again before turning. They complete the turn at position 3.

Lane striping on a one-way street is usually a while dotted line in the middle of lanes; two way streets have yellow lines in the middle separating travel directions.
Intersection 4. Positioning and left turns on a 2-lane, one-way street

The bicyclist normally rides in position 3 but when turning left, they must move to position 1. When riding on a one-way street, they must get to position 1 the left lane, the one closest to the turn. If they turn from the right lane, they may be hit by traffic on the left.

Intersection 5. Example of an incorrect left turn

A common mistake that students make when completing the turn is to turn from position 1 into position 1. It is important to emphasize that this is dangerous, as it puts the cyclist close to oncoming traffic and into the path of cars from behind.