



DETERMINING THE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY GAP WORKSHEET

MATCHING: Match the correct letter with its definition

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| _____ SAFE GAP | A: someone who walks |
| _____ AN ADULT | B: an object that doesn't move |
| _____ CROSSWALK | C: a long enough break in traffic to cross the street |
| _____ PEDESTRIAN | D: someone kids should walk with |
| _____ RAIN, SNOW OR ICE | E: pavement markings for pedestrians |
| _____ FIXED REFERENCE POINT | F: weather that could affect the speed of traffic |

FINDING THE SAFE PEDESTRIAN GAP ON YOUR STREET

Important: Do this section with an adult.

1. Determine where you need to cross the street. This will be called your **SAFE CROSSING POINT**. When there is no traffic, with an adult's assistance, time yourself to see how many seconds it takes to cross the street without running. Repeat four times to make sure you have a good idea of how long it takes.

Trip 1 _____ seconds Trip 2 _____ seconds

Trip 3 _____ seconds Trip 4 _____ seconds

2. Record your **AVERAGE SPEED HERE** _____ SECONDS

(Math skill: to find the average speed, add the number of seconds for all trips, then divide by 4, or the number of trips you recorded)

3. Look down the street and pick a **FIXED VISUAL REFERENCE POINT**. This is an object that will never move, like a street sign, tree or mailbox. Stay at your **SAFE CROSSING POINT** and count how many seconds it takes for a passing vehicle to get from the **FIXED REFERENCE POINT** to your **SAFE CROSSING POINT**. Because cars may be traveling at different speeds, observe at least 10 passing vehicles, time and record each. Determine the average amount of seconds it takes for vehicles to get from the fixed point to your safe crossing.

Vehicle 1 _____ seconds

Vehicle 6 _____ seconds

Vehicle 2 _____ seconds

Vehicle 7 _____ seconds

Vehicle 3 _____ seconds

Vehicle 8 _____ seconds

Vehicle 4 _____ seconds

Vehicle 9 _____ seconds

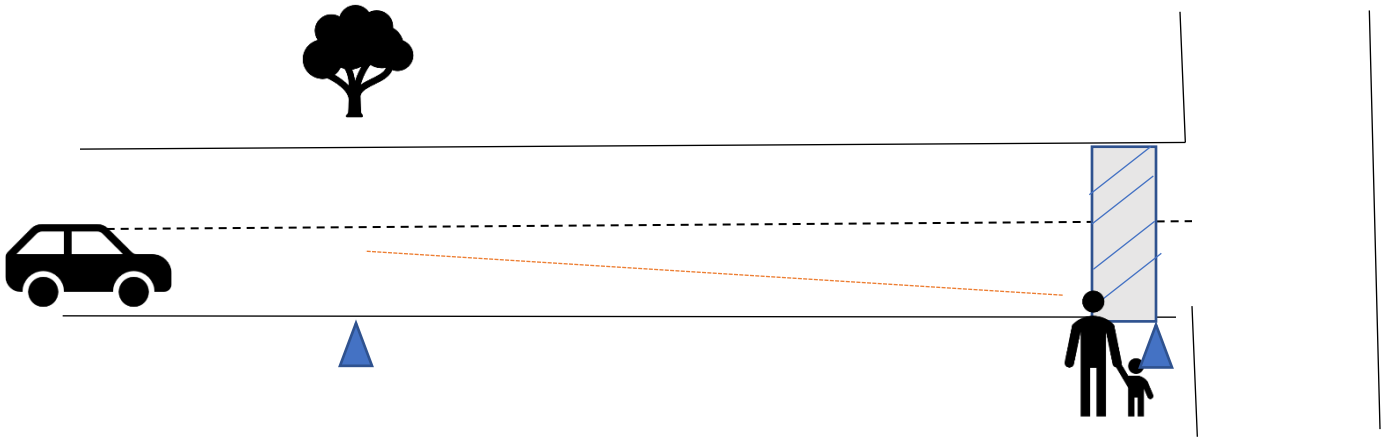
Vehicle 5 _____ seconds

Vehicle 10 _____ seconds

4. Record the **AVERAGE SPEED FOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC HERE** _____ SECONDS

(Math again: add up the number of seconds for all vehicles and divide by 10, or the number of vehicles you counted)

If it took less time for the vehicles to get to your safe crossing spot than your average speed, repeat Step 3, but pick a visual reference point that's a little further away and repeat. Since vehicles can come from either direction, you will have to do the same for traffic going the other way as well.



FILL IN THE BLANKS

Use the diagram above to answer the questions.

1. What object is the FIXED REFERENCE POINT for the pedestrians? _____
2. What is the pavement marking that shows where they are crossing? _____
3. What is the space between the blue triangles called? _____
4. The diagram shows the car to the left of the fixed reference point. If the car is to the right of that same point, do you think the pedestrians would have enough time to cross the street safely? Explain your answer. _____

Suppose a traffic light were added to the intersection in this diagram.

5. If the traffic light turns yellow in the direction the pedestrians want to go, should they start to cross? _____
6. If the driver waves them on, telling them it's OK to cross, is it safe to cross? _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. "Volume of traffic" on the road refers to
 - a. How loud the noise of the traffic is
 - b. How many cars are on the road
 - c. How loud the horns honk on cars
2. Additional factor(s) that can help determine the safe gap include
 - a. The width of the road
 - b. Weather conditions
 - c. What kind of road it is (rural, residential, urban, etc)
 - d. All of the above
3. When crossing, safe habit(s) include
 - a. Checking your phone for messages
 - b. Feeling confident that drivers are looking for pedestrians
 - c. Making eye contact with drivers
 - d. Running across to avoid getting hit
4. Good visual skills means you need to look
 - a. Left and right
 - b. Left and right, and left again
 - c. Left, right, left again, and behind you