

# This is the Way We Go to School

**SR2S Educator Guide**

**K-1**

# This is the Way we Go to School

## Overview

Students will learn how their parents and/or grandparents got to school when they were children, and compare this information with how they get to school. The book, *This is the Way We Go to School* exposes students to children from around the world and how they go to school. Students will learn about various options for transport to and from school.

### Supplies



- ✓ *This is the Way we Go to School* book (included)
- ✓ Copies of *Getting to School Student/Parent Survey* for each student (visit the For Principals and Teachers page of our website for a copy in Spanish)
- ✓ Copies of *This is the Way we Go to School* booklet handout for each student
- ✓ *Mode Chart* (in Resource section)

## Activity: How We Get to School

- Day One: Do a “How We Get To School” word map with students. Write the word “transportation” with a circle around it on the board or chart paper and ask students what they think of when they hear that word. Add their responses to the word map.
- Tell students you are going to look at modes of transportation that students use to come to school. Using the *Mode Chart* ask students how they got to school that day and mark their answers on the chart, or have them mark it themselves with a marker or stickers.
- Look at the chart with students and discuss the results. Why might some modes have a higher number than others?
- Ask students if they could decide, how would they like to come to school. Ask why they chose that mode.
- Let students know that not that long ago it was much more common for children to walk and bicycle to school, and that for a variety of reasons, more children are arriving in cars. Explain that they will be asking their parents and grandparents or other family members how they got to school.
- Pass out *Getting to School Student/Parent Survey* for students to complete with their parents. Ask students to bring them back the next day.

Note: You can use the *Mode Chart* template to make a larger classroom mode chart.

## Day Two: How We Get To School

- Using the student/parent surveys have a discussion on how their parents and grandparents went to school.
- Using the *Mode Chart*, mark the responses in a different color or with a different sticker for parents and grandparents.
- Compare and contrast the responses between the student responses and the parent and grandparent responses. Is there a difference? If there is, help students think about why.
- Ask them to come up with ideas to help more students walk or roll to school.

## Activity: This is the Way We Go to School

- Read the book *This is the Way We Go to School* to your class.
- After reading the book, ask students to recall as many of the modes of transportation they can remember, list their responses on board or chart paper.

## Discussion Questions

Use the following questions as prompts for a class discussion on transportation:

- Which of the modes do they like? Why?
- Which of the modes can be shared? Which can't be?
- Which of the modes seem easy to do/use? Why?
- Which of the modes seem hard to do/use? Why?
- Show students the map at the back of the book. Locate a few of the countries and discuss how the students' journey to school from those countries is different than their own. What are some of those differences?

- Have students choose their favorite mode of transportation from the book to use in the *This is How We Get to School* booklet they will make.
- Pass out *This Is How We Get to School* booklet handout for students to complete.

## Safe Routes to Schools: Connections and Extensions

### INTERNATIONAL & MONTHLY WALK & ROLL TO SCHOOL DAYS

Prepare students for International Walk to School Day (*First Wednesday in October*) or monthly events if your school holds monthly Walk and Roll to school days. Use the *Mode Chart* to collect mode data on a monthly basis.

### TRANSPORTATION COLLAGES

Use old magazines for students to collect pictures of various modes of transportation. Have students categorize polluting and non-polluting modes.

### INTO THE FUTURE

Ask students to think about what transportation will be like in the future. Have them draw a picture of their prediction and write a sentence about how it works.

### GOOGLE EARTH

Use Google Earth to virtually travel to some of the locations in the book, *This is the Way We Go To School*.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Getting To School: Student/Parent Survey



Ask a family member to help you fill out this survey.

How I get to school:	What I like about it:	What I don't like about it:

How my parents got to school:	What they liked about it:	What they didn't like about it:

How my grandparents got to school:	What they liked about it:	What they didn't like about it:



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# This is the Way We Go to School

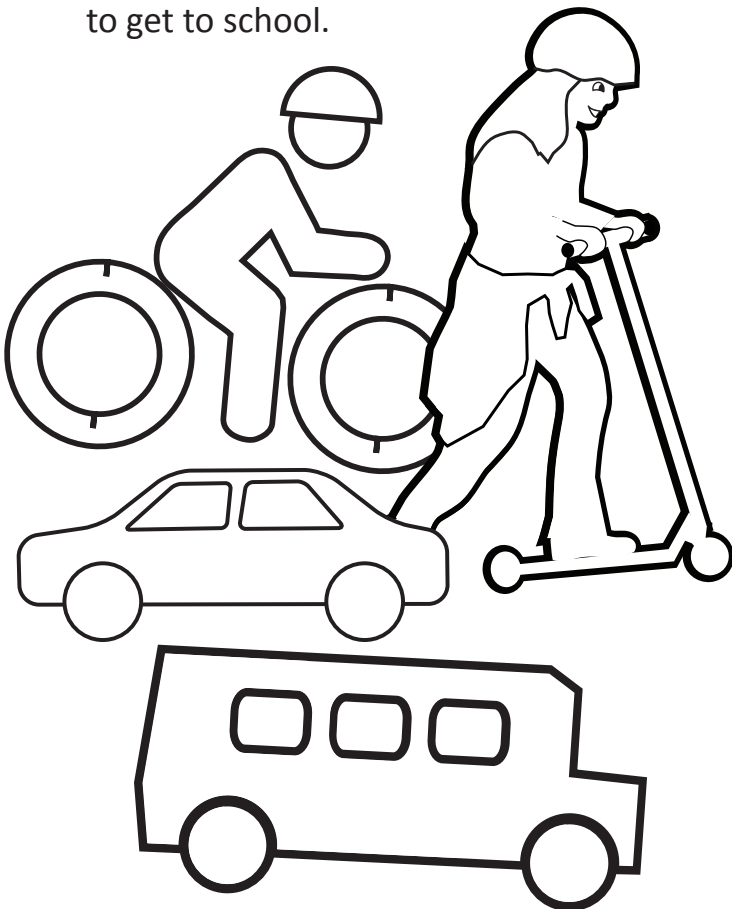
Make your own booklet.

1. Cut out the bottom of this page and fold it in half with the writing on the outside. This is the cover.
2. Fold the second page in half, where you see the letter "A."
3. Fold the sheet in half again, where you see the letter "B." Make sure page 1 is on the top.
4. Now put the pages inside the cover. When you open it, it says, "This is the way I usually go to school."
5. Fill in the pages of your booklet with pictures. Don't forget to ask your family how they went to school.



1. Cut here.

Color in all the ways to get to school.



2. Fold Here

## This is the Way We Go to School!

By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME)



**This is how children in**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ country name  
**go to school.**  
 Look for ideas in the book.

A. Fold Here

**This is how my grandma/  
 grandpa went to school.**

B. Fold Here

**This is how my mom/dad  
 went to school.**

**This is how I usually  
 go to school.**





# Using People Power

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