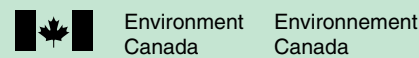
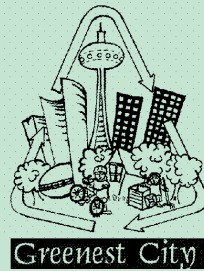




Artwork by Claudia Dávila



# BLAZING TRAILS THROUGH THE URBAN JUNGLE



Active & Safe Routes to School

NAME

Blazing Trails was originally conceived and developed by Transportation Options, a Toronto-based non-profit organization dedicated to facilitating sustainable systems of transportation which promote ecological balance, social equity and economic vitality. Tel: (416) 504-3934

## INTRODUCTION

Even though our neighbourhoods are generally pretty safe, the Urban Jungle can have just as many pitfalls and dangers as the deepest, darkest corners of the jungle.

To blaze a trail through the urban jungle, kids have to chart their course carefully. Work with your teacher and follow the steps so you can survive in the urban jungle (watch out for the alley cats!!).

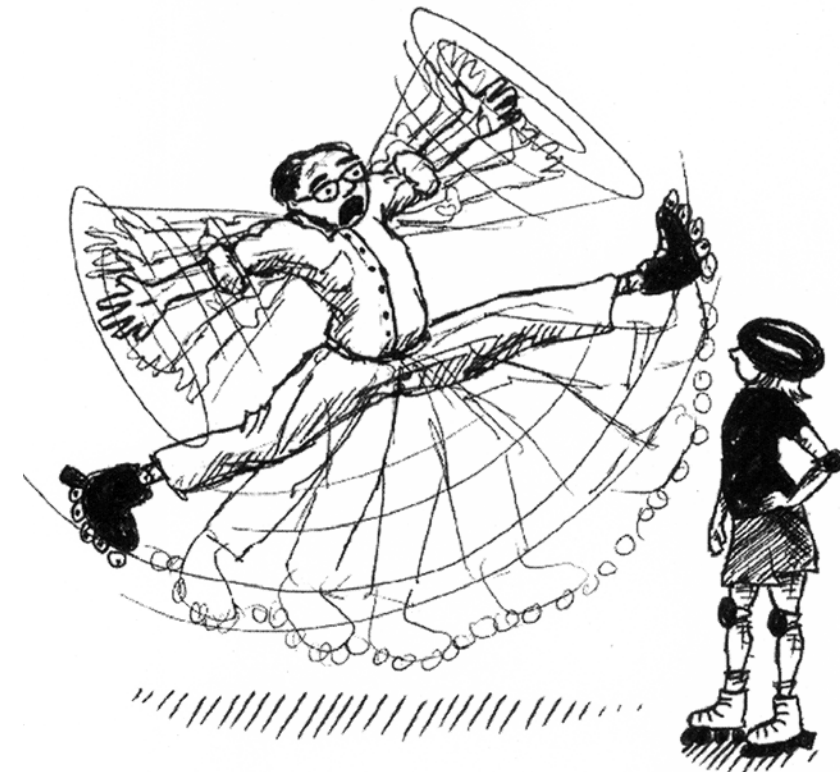


Active and Safe Routes to School is a national program of **Go for Green**. **Go for Green** is **The Active Living and Environment Program** whose mission is to encourage outdoor physical activity that protects, enhances or restores the natural environment. **Go for Green** has community-driven solutions that make a positive contribution to Canadian society.

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## WHAT YOUR PARENTS CAN DO:

- \* Walk students to school instead of driving them
- \* Help start a "Walking School Bus" with help from **Go for Green**
- \* Implement traffic calming in your community (call your local City Councillor for information and ask **Go for Green** for a copy of "Retrofitting Communities for Sustainable and Healthy Active Transportation")
- \* Contact your local politician about your and your child's concerns
- \* Drive slower
- \* Leave your car at home at least two days per week
- \* Talk about these concerns with your friends and neighbours





## THE NEXT STEPS

### YOU'VE DONE YOUR JOB ...

by locating transportation problems and thinking about how to deal with them. Now it's your family's, your school's and your community's turn.

Now it's time to work with your teacher, and discover how you can work with your community to encourage adults to make changes.

Everyone needs to blaze a new trail.

### FUN PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

#### ENTER LOCALLY APPLICABLE PROGRAMS HERE

- \* Take a cycling skills course (for info call \_\_\_\_\_)
- \* Take a rollerblading training course (for info call \_\_\_\_\_)

### EVERYDAY SAFETY TIPS

- \* Wear a helmet when biking, rollerblading or skateboarding
- \* Wear reflective gear when biking, rollerblading or skateboarding
- \* Obey all traffic signals
- \* Walk on the inside of the sidewalk away from car traffic

# URBAN JUNGLE MAPPING

BEFORE TRUE

URBAN EXPLORERS

CAN BLAZE A TRAIL,

THEY NEED TO MAP OUT THEIR TERRITORY.

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD IS YOUR TERRITORY .....



## STEP 1

### WHERE'S YOUR TERRITORY?

- 1) Locate and colour your school on the neighbourhood map (in the centre of this booklet).
- 2) Where do you live? Locate and draw your home on the neighbourhood map.
- 3) Locate and colour in the parks on the map.
- 4) Draw in and label any other places that you think are important in your neighbourhood (such as a public library, a community centre, a store, where the lions hang out or a friend's cave).



## STEP 4

### MAP SAFE ROUTES IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

- 1) Use a blue marker or blue pencil to draw a safe route from your home to school. Use this design: ooooooo. Then fill in this design on your map legend.

How do you plan to take this safe route? (circle one)

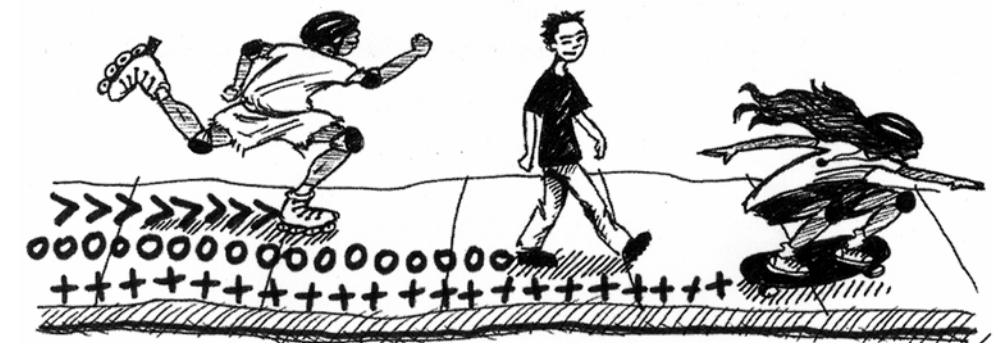
by walking                      by bicycle                      by skateboard  
by rollerblades                      by transit                      by school bus

- 2) Use orange to draw a safe route from your home to another place you hang out (such as a friend's home, a community centre). Use this design: >>>>>>>. Then fill in this design on your map legend.

How do you plan to take this safe route? (circle one)

by walking                      by bicycle                      by skateboard  
by rollerblades                      by transit                      by school bus

- 3) Make sure your map legend is complete. Show the map to your family and see what they think.





## STEP 3

### WHAT'S SAFE AND UNSAFE IN YOUR TERRITORY?

With the help of your teacher or family member, identify safe and unsafe traffic areas in your neighbourhood. Then locate and mark these places on your neighbourhood map.

Use a green ○ (circle) for safe places. Use a red △ (triangle) for unsafe places. Be sure to fill in these symbols on your map legend, too.

#### THESE ARE SOME SAFE PLACES

Use **GREEN** to place these numbers on the map:

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| ① Crossing guard       | ④ Stop signs |
| ② Traffic light        | ⑤ _____      |
| ③ Quiet or slow street | ⑥ _____      |

#### THESE ARE SOME UNSAFE PLACES

Use **RED** to place these letters on the map:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| △ <b>A</b> Busy street with lots of cars | △ <b>E</b> Out of control bikers, skateboarders and rollerbladers |
| △ <b>B</b> Street with fast cars         | △ <b>F</b> School "drop-off" and "pick-up" areas                  |
| △ <b>C</b> Busy intersection             | △ <b>G</b> Crowded sidewalks                                      |
| △ <b>D</b> Big parking lot               | △ <b>H</b> _____  |



## STEP 2

### MAP YOUR ROUTE TO SCHOOL

- 1a) How did you get to school today? (circle one)
- |                 |              |               |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| by walking      | by bicycle   | by skateboard |
| by rollerblades | by car       | by school bus |
| by transit      | by surfboard |               |
- 1b) If you came by bike, skateboard, or rollerblades, did you ride
- on the sidewalk
- or on the road?
- 2) Did you come to school with anyone?
- Yes
- No
- 3) Who did you come with? \_\_\_\_\_

#### MY ROUTE TO SCHOOL TODAY

- 4) If you walked, biked, skateboarded or rollerbladed to school, use a pencil to draw the route on your neighbourhood map.

Use this design: - - - - -

Then fill in this design on your map legend.

