

Walk Audit Activity
Safe Routes to School Curriculum
Grades 5–6



Walk Audit

Step 1: Choose Your Route

Choose a route that you know well and want to improve. It can be a route to school, a route to the store, or any route that you want to examine. You will need a starting location (choose an intersection) and a destination (also an intersection).

Starting location (intersection):

Destination (intersection):

Step 2: Draw Your Route

Use a printed map, Google Maps, Google Street view, National Geographic's map-maker or draw your own simple map.

Draw the route you would take and label:

- **S** for your starting point
- **D** for your destination

Step 3: Find Safety Concerns

Look for places that feel unsafe, difficult, or uncomfortable on the route.

Put a number on your map for each concern.

Examples include:

- Missing or narrow sidewalks
- Intersection crossings that feel unsafe
- Speeding traffic
- No safe place to bike
- Cars turning too fast
- Not enough shade, lighting, or places to rest

You can walk or bike the route with an adult, use Google Street View, or think about the route from memory.

Step 4: Describe Your Concerns

Complete this section for each numbered location.

Concern #1

Where is the concern? (One intersection, whole route, one side of the street, etc.)

What is the concern? (Speeding, missing sidewalk, dangerous turns, no lighting, etc.)

Who does it affect? (People walking, people biking, cars turning, kids, everyone, etc.)

Concern #2

Where is the concern?

What is the concern?

Who does it affect?

Concern #3

Where is the concern?

What is the concern?

Who does it affect?

Safety Proposal

Now that you have identified safety concerns on your route, you will choose one and develop a proposal to make it better.

Step 1: Choose One Concern

Pick the concern you think is most important or the one where a change could make the biggest difference.

Location:

Why did you choose this location?

Step 2: Suggest a Solution

What could make this place safer?

Examples:

- Add a crosswalk
- Repair the sidewalk
- Add a bike lane
- Improve lighting
- Trim plants blocking views
- Add features that reduce speeding

My solution:

How would this change help?

Step 3: Draw Before and After

Draw two pictures:

Current (Show the problem)

Future (Show your proposed solution)