

Grades
4-6

THUMBS UP!

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY



STUDENT SAFETY

ACTIVITY BOOK

PRESENTED BY



BUSPATROL





BUS SAFETY QUICK TIPS

Check before you step!

Know the danger zone.

“I see the driver. The driver sees me.”

Wait for the driver's signal to cross.

Look left, right, and left again.

Use a backpack to avoid dropping things.

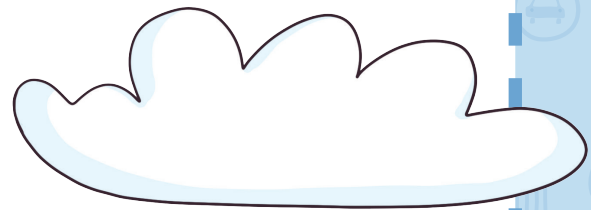
Horn means danger.



GETTING TO THE BUS STOP

- ☆ **Plan to get to the bus stop at least five minutes early.** Get a good night's sleep to wake up early. You do not want to be rushing around traffic trying to catch the bus!
- ☆ Always remember to pack all your items in your backpack before you leave home so you do not drop anything on the road.
- ☆ If you need to cross the street, go to the bus stop and wait for the driver's signal that it's safe to cross.
- ☆ Always stay alert and listen for cars that you may not see. Look **left, right, and left again before crossing.**
- ☆ Never run towards the bus or run after the school bus if it has already left the bus stop.

AT THE BUS STOP (AS THE BUS APPROACHES)



- ☆ Stay safe while waiting for the bus by staying off the street and away from cars. Wait for the bus on the sidewalk or grass, at least five giant steps away from the road.
- ☆ Do not talk to strangers while waiting for the bus and **never** get into the car with a stranger.
- ☆ As the bus approaches, the yellow lights change to red. **The red lights and red stop sign on the side of the bus tell all cars to STOP.**
- ☆ **BE AWARE - sometimes drivers do not respect the red lights or forget to stop like they should.**
- ☆ Be careful, cars could pass on both the left and right side of the bus - and from the front or back direction.
- ☆ When the bus comes, wait for it to come to a complete stop before getting on.
- ☆ Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says that it's okay, before stepping onto the bus.

GETTING ON THE BUS

- ☆ Get on the bus one at a time. Form an orderly line as the bus approaches, with the first student standing at least five giant steps away from traffic.
- ☆ Keep electronic devices packed away as you prepare to board. Never use an electronic device or wear earbuds when boarding.
- ☆ **Walk slowly and always hold the railings, as you walk up the steps.**

WHILE ON THE BUS

- ☆ Pick a seat, face forward, and stay seated.
- ☆ Make sure to obey the bus driver's rules and directions.
- ☆ Talk quietly so the bus driver can focus on the road.
- ☆ Do not play, shout, or throw things in the bus.
- ☆ Do not eat on the bus.
- ☆ If the windows are down, keep your head and arms safely inside.
- ☆ Keep your feet and backpacks out of the aisles so no one gets hurt.
- ☆ We stay in our seats until the bus stops.
- ☆ If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions. NEVER play around with the Emergency Exit.



GETTING OFF THE BUS

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL AT THE START OF THE DAY

- ☆ Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says that it's safe, before stepping off the bus.
- ☆ When exiting the bus, be careful that clothing and backpacks don't get caught in the handrails or doors.
- ☆ Wait for your turn to get off the bus. Get in line and then patiently exit one at a time – do not push people in front of you.
- ☆ Walk (don't run) straight towards the school.
- ☆ After you get off the bus, walk at least five giant steps away from the front of the bus to make sure you are out of the danger zone and are using the safe walking path.
- ☆ If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver by waving your hands above your head and receiving instructions from the bus driver. Never try to pick it up because the driver may not be able to see you.
- ☆ Never walk or run between parked cars and buses.

RETURNING HOME AFTER SCHOOL

- ☆ Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says that it's safe, before stepping off the bus.
- ☆ When exiting the bus, be careful that clothing and backpacks don't get caught in the handrails or doors.
- ☆ Wait for your turn to get off the bus. Get in line and then patiently exit one at a time – do not push people in front of you.
- ☆ Always be alert and focused when near the school bus danger zone.
- ☆ Never walk behind the bus.
- ☆ If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver by waving your hands above your head and receiving instructions from the bus driver. Never try to pick it up because the driver may not be able to see you.
- ☆ **NOTE:** The driver's horn signals DANGER.

AFTER GETTING OFF THE BUS

IF YOU DON'T NEED TO CROSS THE ROAD...

- ☆ After you get off the bus, walk at least five giant steps away (at least 10 feet) from the front of the bus to make sure you are out of the danger zone and are using the safe walking path.

IF YOU NEED TO CROSS THE ROAD...

- ☆ After you get off the bus, walk at least five giant steps away (at least 10 feet) from the front of the bus to make sure you are out of the danger zone and are using the safe walking path.
- ☆ “Be aware — cross with care!” Wait until the school bus has stopped all traffic before stepping out onto the road.
- ☆ Be sure that the bus driver can see you, and you can see the bus driver.
- ☆ Wait for the bus driver’s signal that it is safe to cross the street.
- ☆ LISTEN carefully to the bus driver’s crossing instructions.
- ☆ STOP: The driver will hold their hand up for you to stay put, while they check to make sure all traffic has stopped.
- ☆ LOOK: The driver will give the thumbs up to signal it is time to look both ways. Look left, right, and left again.
- ☆ CROSS: The driver will point with the thumbs up in the direction the students should cross using the universal crossing signal. Remember to look, left, right and left again while in front of the bus.

LOADING AT SCHOOL

- ☆ Line up outside quietly and patiently for the bus. Form an orderly line as the bus approaches, with the first student standing at least five giant steps away from the curb.
- ☆ Check with the bus driver or teacher to make sure you get on the right bus.
- ☆ Walk straight towards the bus door and be sure your driver can see you. Get on the bus one at a time.
- ☆ If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver by waving your hands above your head and receiving instructions from the bus driver. Never try to pick it up because the driver may not be able to see you.
- ☆ Never run towards the bus or run after the school bus if it has already left the bus stop.
- ☆ Never walk behind the bus



REFERENCES:

Facts About Buses:

<http://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/buses.html>

NAPT School Bus Crossing Arms:

<https://www.napt.org/Files/Resources/SchoolBusCrossingArmsStateUse.pdf>

Kids, the School Bus, and You

http://www.nhtsa.org/people/injury/buses/kidsschoolbus_en.html

NHTSA's Safety City Bus Safety

https://one.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/buses/kidsschoolbus_en.html

School Bus Safety Web

<http://www.ncbussafety.org/ncbussafety.html>

NYC Gov

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/transportation/safe-travel-tips>

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/school-bus-safety#the-topic-bus-stop-safety>

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BusPatrol America LLC
8540 Cinder Bed Rd, Lorton, VA, 22079-1480

Editor: K. Spree
Art Direction and Project Manager: A. Kornetskaya
Illustrator: Z. Lyapina
Design Layout: T. Moreno
Editorial Director: PN. Tsoukas

The illustrations in this book were created digitally.

Look and Find

SPOT THE SCHOOL BUS SAFETY LESSONS

As you travel to and from school on the big yellow bus, make sure to remember the safety guidelines to stay safe!

Look at the illustration on the next page and find the examples of school bus safety lessons. When you find an example, circle it!

When you're finished, see if you can find the hidden objects in the picture.

Turn to the illustration on the next page to find the safety lessons!

Test your observation skills! Can you find all these school bus safety rules?

Circle these 6 rules in the picture:

1. Arrive at the bus stop 5 minutes early.
2. Never run to or from the bus..
3. Use the handrail to get on and off the bus safely.
4. Know the danger zone! If you need to cross the street, always take five giant steps in front of the bus before crossing.
5. If you drop something, tell the bus driver. Never crawl under the bus to get something.
6. Always obey the driver and watch for the universal crossing signals!



Once you've finished the first exercise, challenge your observation skills with this bonus game!



BONUS GAME

Can you find these 12 hidden objects in the picture?



Draw a triangle around the hidden objects when you find them.





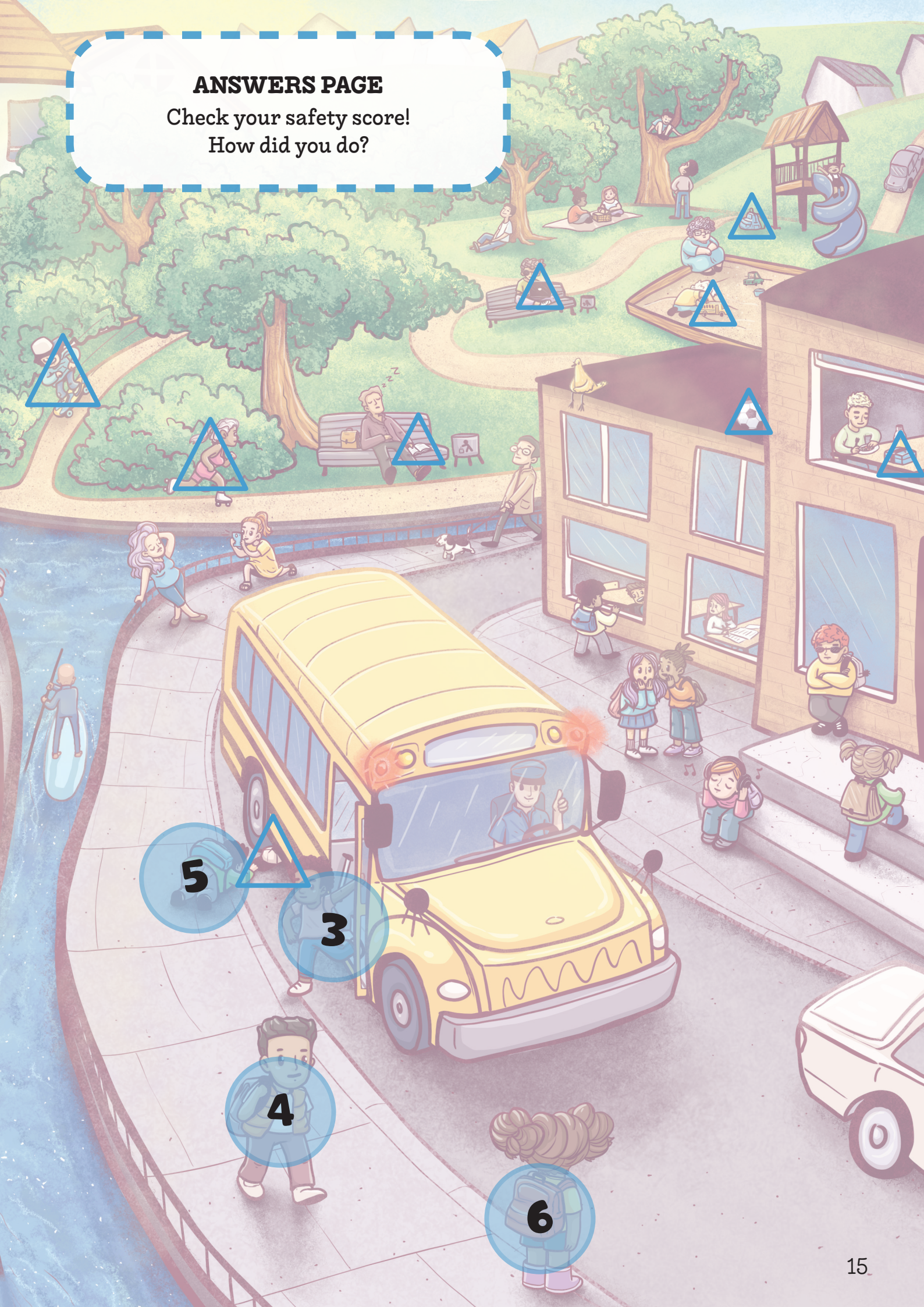
KEEP CALM
ARCH
ODDEN
OBJECTS





ANSWERS PAGE

Check your safety score!
How did you do?



Look and Find

UNDERSTANDING SAFE AND UNSAFE BEHAVIOR



How well do you know the school bus safety rules? Test your knowledge by analyzing the next illustration.

Look for these 15 real life situations in the picture below. Is this an example of safe or dangerous behavior?

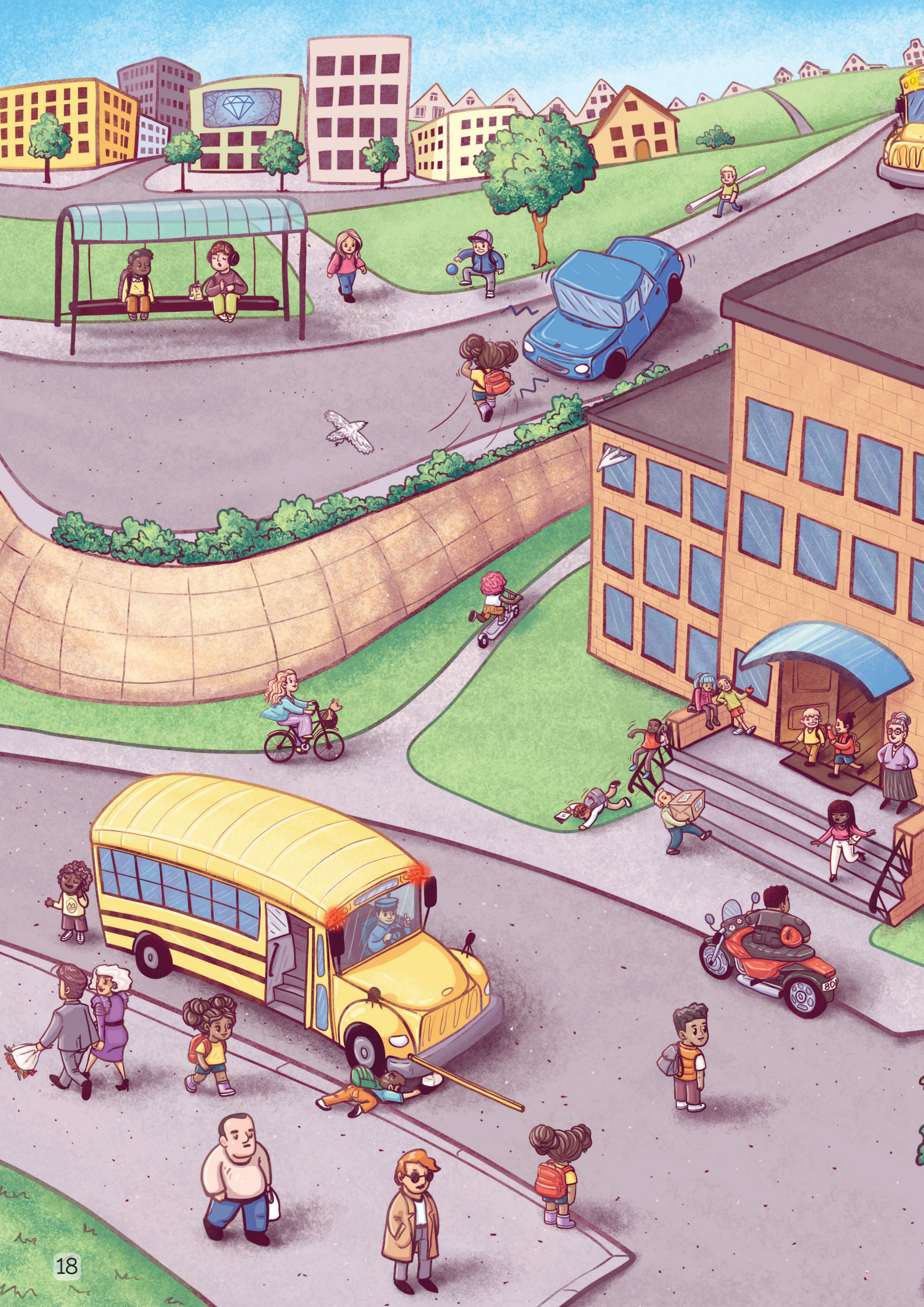


Circle the examples of safe behavior in the picture.



Draw a square around the examples of dangerous behavior.

1. A child puts his head and arms out of the window.
2. Jill runs in front of the bus without looking left or right. She doesn't see that a car is approaching.
3. A student pushes another student in front of him in line at the bus stop.
4. Jack plays with a soccer ball while waiting at the bus stop.
5. Jill eats a sandwich while getting on the bus.
6. Jack is late for the bus. He runs after the bus and shouts and waves for the bus driver to stop.
7. A student crawls to get his hat from under the bus.
8. A student stands behind the bus talking on the phone.
9. The students wait in line to get on the bus and use the handrail to get on.
10. Jill follows the safe walking path as she gets off the bus.
11. Jack looks left, right, and left again before crossing the street. He knows the danger zone and follows the safe walking path in front of the bus.
12. Jill looks at the bus driver and waits for the crossing signal. The bus driver shows the 'thumbs up' that it's safe to cross.
13. A student arrives on time and uses the sidewalk to get to the bus stop. They walk slowly without rushing.
14. A child is quiet and alert as they wait for the bus.
15. A child sits on a bench, listening to music at the bus stop.







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ANSWERS

What's your safety score?
Check your answers with this page.

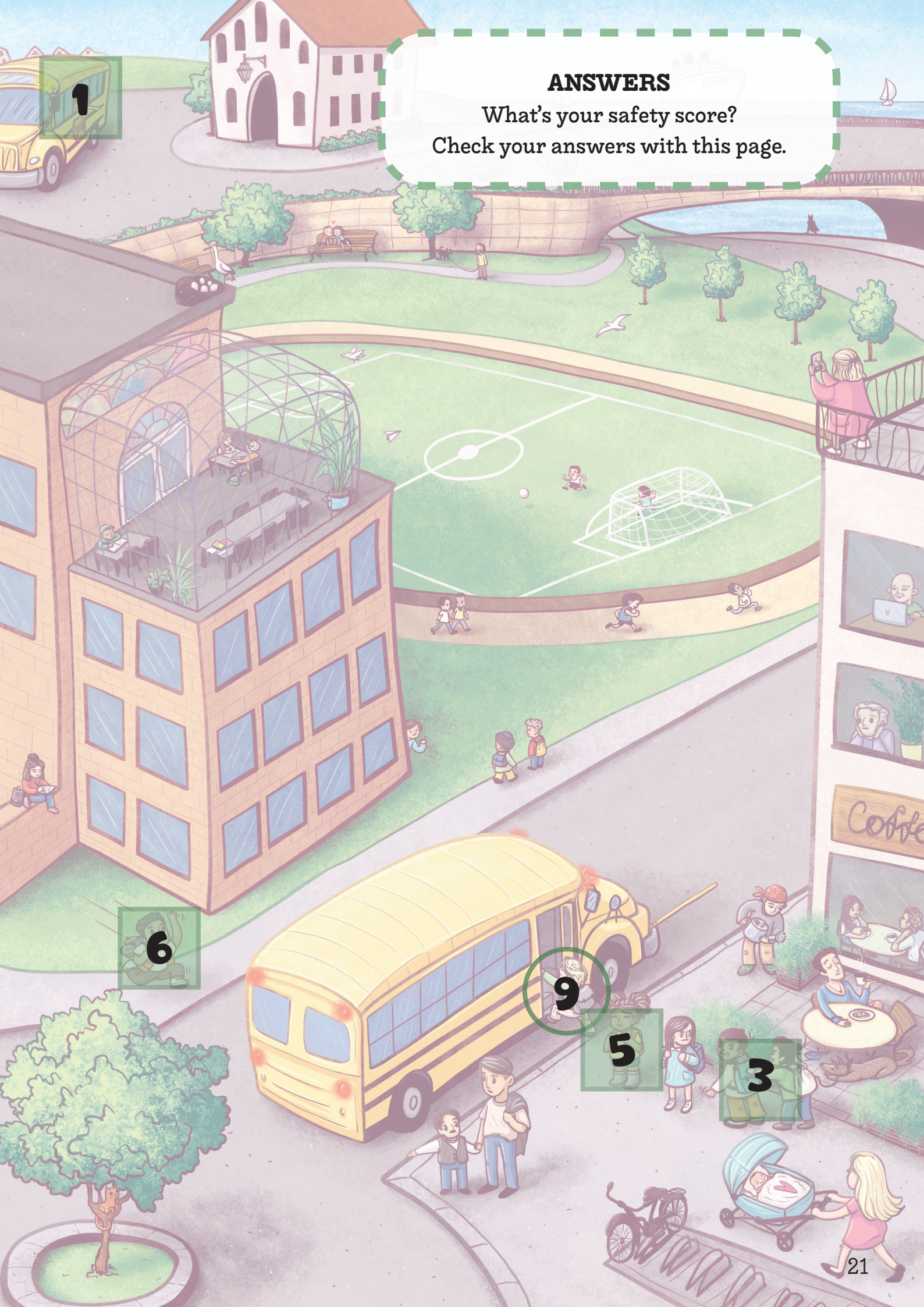
1

6

9

5

3



TRUE OR FALSE?

Do you know all the school bus safety rules for inside and outside the bus? Read the below statements and decide if they are true or false. Look at the next picture and see if you can find the safety rules.

Read the below statements and mark if they are true or false. Then, look at the next picture and...

- Circle the examples of safe behavior.
- Draw a square around the examples of dangerous behavior.

1. I always use the handrail while getting on or off the bus.

TRUE OR FALSE?

2. It is safe to put my hand outside the bus when it's very hot.

TRUE OR FALSE?

3. I enjoy my breakfast while on the bus to school.

TRUE OR FALSE?

4. I'm allowed to scream and chat with my friends on the school bus.

TRUE OR FALSE?



5. I always keep my belongings in my closed backpack. If I drop something, I let the bus driver know. I never crawl under the bus to pick it up.

TRUE OR FALSE?

6. I always obey the driver and watch for the crossing signals when I need to cross the street.

TRUE OR FALSE?

7. It's safe to cross the street behind the bus.

TRUE OR FALSE?

8. I rush to the exit door before the school bus stops so that I can be first off the bus.

TRUE OR FALSE?

9. I always stay seated and keep my backpack under the seat while the bus is moving.

TRUE OR FALSE?

10. I know the danger zone! I take at least five giant steps away from the bus and out of the danger zone.

TRUE OR FALSE?

11. The boys are allowed to play fight on the bus.

TRUE OR FALSE?

12. My friend and I play games on my phone on the bus.

TRUE OR FALSE?

13. I can throw something at my friend if he asks me to.

TRUE OR FALSE?

14. I always look left, right, and left again when crossing the street, even when the bus driver tells me it's safe. It's better to be safe than sorry!

TRUE OR FALSE?

15. I can't wait to play soccer with my friend so we play at the bus stop.

TRUE OR FALSE?



DID YOU KNOW?

The most dangerous part of the school bus ride is getting on and off the bus.

Accidents can happen when children hurry to get on and off the bus, don't watch out for traffic, and don't stay within the bus driver's sight.

Remember, I see the bus driver, the bus driver sees me.





DID YOU KNOW?

Every year, 17 million vehicles illegally pass school buses which are stopped to pick up or drop off students.

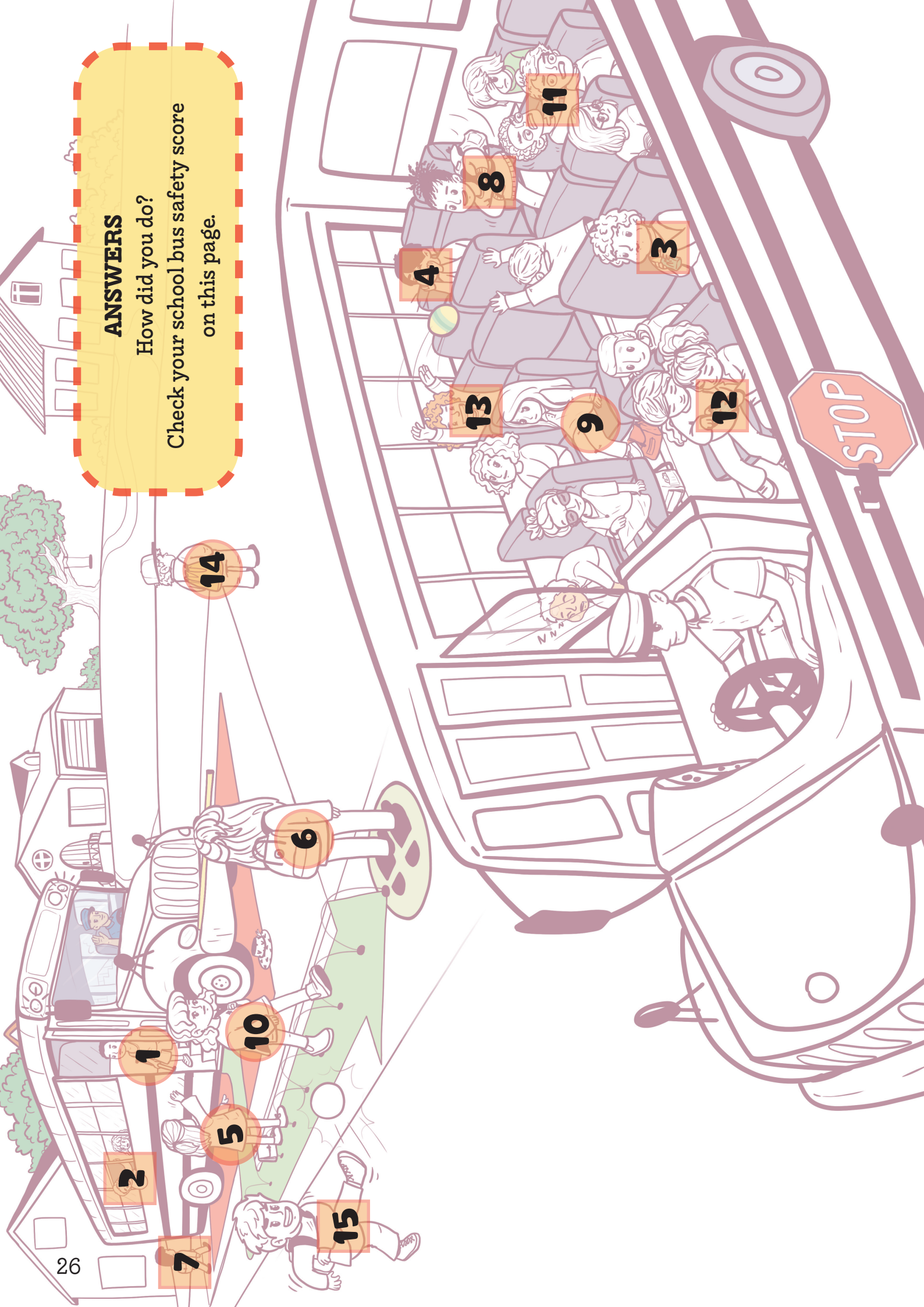
Always be aware and cross with care. You never know when a car could be coming.



 Color in the page to bring it to life!

ANSWERS

How did you do?
Check your school bus safety score
on this page.



2

1

5

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15

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12





SAFETY CERTIFICATE

This certificate is presented to:



Name and Surname

I will follow and respect all school bus safety rules.

I will be considerate of the bus driver and my fellow students.

Date

Signature



