

DO YOUR PART TO MAKE **ROADS SAFER**

Model

Read about one teen's efforts to make her street safer.

The street where Rachel's family lives used to be fairly quiet, but lately more cars have started using that road. This worries Rachel because lots of children, including her brother Dean, like to play near the street. Rachel is concerned that there could be an accident.

Some neighborhoods have installed speed bumps and taken other "traffic calming" measures to slow cars down. Rachel discovers that a group of families in her neighborhood has been sending letters to the mayor about adding traffic calming measures. Rachel and her family join the group, and she begins to research which measures have been most helpful in other neighborhoods.



Practice

Lauren has always known that alcohol and motor vehicles don't mix. She hates hearing about accidents that involve alcohol. Last year someone in her school was on the way home from the bus stop when a drunk driver hit him. Luckily, he recovered from his injuries. Lauren has decided that she wants to start a chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions at her school. With your class, brainstorm ways in which Lauren might use the skill of advocacy to accomplish her goal. Whom might she contact? How could she find other interested students? How would they get their message out to the community?

Apply/Assess

In groups of three or four, identify a road safety issue that you think people in your community should be aware of and try to resolve. Perhaps there is a dangerous intersection that needs a traffic light, or maybe your town needs a bike path. Next, conduct research so that you can take a clear stand on the issue. Then think of how you might get others to join your cause. Write a one- to two-page report of your findings that includes your reasons for advocating for the cause.



Advocacy

The skill of advocacy asks you to

- take a clear stand on an issue.
- persuade others to make healthy choices.
- be convincing.

Self-Check

- Did we identify a road safety issue?
- Did we conduct research to take a clear stand on the issue?
- Did we think of creative ways to convince others to join our cause?

