

Wall of Risk

Teacher Notes

Description

The aim of Wall of Risk is to get the class really thinking about the every day things they do. Behaviour that might not at first glance seem risky at all, can have negative consequences. So, whilst staying up late to watch the end of a film isn't in itself a 'risky' thing to do, crossing a busy road the next morning when you're still half asleep is.

Time to complete

Interactive game: About 15 minutes

Paper alternative: 30-40 minutes

How to use

- Sort out various risks into one of the three sections - "Not that risky", "Pretty risky", "Crazy risky!". Discuss the results with the rest of the class.
- If individual computer access is not available complete the game on interactive whiteboards, in teams or individually.
- The paper alternative can be used if no computer equipment is available. These can be downloaded from the "Your Call" website.

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Discussion points

Discuss the answers with pupils and ask if they thought their behaviour was risky. Have their views changed any?

1. Why do people take risks?

- Lack of concern for their safety.
- Feeling of being invincible.
- To reject authority.
- Over-confidence.
- Believe it won't happen to them.
- Being tired/ill.
- Pressure from others.
- Distractions.

2. What are the possible consequences of taking risks?

3. Why do you think some people take risks even when they know the possible outcome may be unpleasant?

4. How do you minimise risk when using different forms of transport?

- Use pedestrian crossings.
- Wear hi-visibility clothing.
- Wear protective clothing ie helmet.
- Use seatbelt.
- Avoid distractions.

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Additional exercise:



Make your own Wall of Risk: Write a selection of different risks on sticky notes and decide where on the wall each should go: *Dangerous, Quite Risky, Not Risky, Good Fun.*

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Answer sheet

HAVE AN EXTRA SNOOZE IN THE MORNING

YES - Given half the chance we all love an extra few minutes. But not leaving yourself enough time in the morning means you'll end up rushing. And rushing when you're out is never good. That's when accidents can happen.

NO - Good on you for being so disciplined. Not least because you sound like the kind of person who doesn't frantically rush about in the morning. It's the rushing that causes accidents, you see. So keep it up.

STAY UP LATE

YES - We've all been there. There's something good on the telly, texts to check, another level to get through on that game. Getting a good night's sleep is really important because when we're tired we're not as alert. And that can put us at real risk in lots of everyday situations.

NO - You are very wise indeed. People your age need around 9 hours and 15 minutes sleep to be able to function properly the next day. (And score so highly in quizzes like this!)

GO OUT WITHOUT BREAKFAST

YES - You're missing out big time! A good breakfast kick starts us into action and healthy breakfasts are really easy to prepare. Stopping off for a snack can be a sure fire way to make you run late and

Description

YES - Not that risky, I'd do this

YES - Pretty risky, I'd sometimes do this

NO - Crazy risky, I'd never do this

then you end up rushing. Avoid being held up by eating before you leave. You'll probably save a fortune.

NO - We're with you on that one. We all need a bit of fuel in the morning to help us function. When we're hungry, we lose concentration. And concentration is one thing you definitely, definitely need when you're trying to negotiate rush-hour traffic.

AUDITION FOR THE SCHOOL SHOW

YES - Brilliant! Break a leg, as they say.

NO - Go on! It can be a brilliant confidence booster to do something outside your comfort zone. Doesn't matter if you don't get the lead role. Even the biggest Hollywood superstars don't always get the part they want.

CROSS THE ROAD LISTENING TO MUSIC

YES - Music is great - especially to pass the time when you're on your way to and from school. But roads are still dangerous. You need to use your ears, as well as your eyes, to cross safely. Do yourself a favour and put the music off when you're crossing. Otherwise, that song you're playing might be the last one you hear...

NO - Us neither. When you're crossing roads you need to use your ears as well as your eyes. Especially at peak traffic times on your way to and from school. Anyone who doesn't see that, shouldn't be allowed out on their own.

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DO A CHALLENGE FOR CHARITY

YES - Good for you. There are so many brilliant charities out there who need support. Just make sure that if you're doing a challenge it's properly organised and supervised. Oh, and if you plan on lying in a bath of baked beans make sure you don't eat any beforehand. For obvious reasons...

NO - Fair enough. Challenges can be great fun provided they're properly organised and well supervised. Your school or out-of-school clubs are likely to have charities they're involved with. Why not find out more about them and the different ways you can help without having to pour a bucket of ice water over your head.

NOT WEAR A SEATBELT

YES - Really? You know it's the law to wear a seatbelt. Do you really want to go hurtling through the windscreen or be responsible for killing another passenger if you're in the back? One wee click is all you have to do. Not much, is it?

NO - It's the only answer, isn't it? If heaven forbid you were ever to be involved in an accident, your seatbelt could save your life. It doesn't matter if you're the driver or a passenger, seatbelts save lives.

CYCLE WITHOUT A HELMET

YES - Do you have a brain? If the answer is 'yes' then you NEED TO protect it. Or

are there some days that you wouldn't mind having a fractured skull? Wear your helmet, unless, of course, you're not that attached to your head. If Bradley Wiggins can come off his bike, anyone can.

NO - You've got a good brain there. Keep wearing the helmet so that it stays that way and don't stop wearing it just because some of your pals don't wear theirs.

GIVE A TODDLER A WATER PISTOL

YES - Love your spirit of adventure. And the fact that you don't care about getting completely soaked!

NO - You don't know what you're missing. There's nothing to beat being completely drenched by a crazy three-year old.

BRUSH YOUR TEETH IN THE TOILET

YES - Really? In the actual toilet? Are you mad? Next time we'd recommend using the bathroom sink! Oh, and remember to floss.

NO - So where do you brush your teeth? Wherever it is it should be at least twice a day because poor mouth hygiene can lead to all sorts of health problems - including heart disease! Remember to floss too.

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CHECK FACEBOOK AND TEXTS IN THE STREET

YES - We know there's a lot of goss to catch up on, but if you do need to check your phone, stop and do it somewhere safe. If you're looking at your phone screen when you're crossing a road, you're not looking at oncoming traffic.

So put the phone away or it might be the last text you read.

NO - Good move. People who check their phones when they're on the move are so locked in their own wee world they don't see what's going on around them. Like cars speeding towards them.

ENCOURAGE A DRIVER TO EXCEED THE SPEED LIMIT

YES - Would you really pressure a driver to exceed the speed limit? Speed limits are the maximum permitted speed and are in place for a very good reason - to help prevent accidents happening. Remember, it's an offence to exceed the speed limit so slow down before it's too late.

NO - Good on you. Thankfully, most people are, like you, smart enough to realise that speed limits aren't just for decoration, they're the law and are there to help prevent accidents happening. Just a pity that there are still some people out there who don't value their own safety, let alone anyone else's.

CROSS WHEN THE GREEN MAN IS FLASHING

YES - Ok, here's the thing. There are dangerous drivers out there who jump red lights. Even when a solid Green Man indicates that it's safe to cross, you still need to be careful. So don't bolt across when it's flashing!

Is it really worth risking your life for the sake of waiting a couple of minutes?

NO - Quite right - 'cos there are dangerous drivers out there who jump lights all the time. And the kind of drivers who do this, tend also to be the kind of drivers who speed as well. We just don't get why anyone would take such a risk rather than waiting just a couple of minutes.

CYCLE IN THE DARK WITHOUT LIGHTS

YES - Watch out, you want to be seen don't you! There are many dangers on and around roads in the daytime alone, not to mention in the dark. Remember, fit lights front and rear - lights are a legal requirement! And don't forget to wear some reflective clothing!

NO - Now you've got the right idea! Being observant and easy to see while on the road at night can be the difference between life and death. So next time you're heading out on your bike, whether it be to the local store or to a friend's house, you know lights and reflective clothing are a must!