

INFORMATION

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To: Newsdesks
From: James Davitt (01698 453 857)
Date: 24/06/11
Pages: 2



Photo (L-R):

Assistant Road Safety Training Officer with South Lanarkshire Council, Colin Smith, Chair of South Lanarkshire Council's Road Safety Forum, Councillor John Murray, Hollandbush Nursery Head, Margo Butcher and Hollandbush Nursery Teacher, Archie Stewart with pupils of the nursery.

Alien helps young children improve road safety skills

A FRIENDLY little alien is helping to teach pre-school children in South Lanarkshire vital and life saving road safety skills.

Through a series of six books the youngsters learn about Ziggy, a visitor from the planet Cosmos. He comes to stay with a Scottish family to learn about basic road safety.

As he knows nothing about road safety, the children are encouraged to help “teach” Ziggy about the dangers of crossing or being near the road.

The new resource is called “Go Safe, Ziggy’s Road Safety Mission” and teaching packs have been distributed to early years establishments and primary schools and include links to the Curriculum for Excellence.

The materials aim to inspire, involve and motivate children. Just as importantly, by working across curricular areas and involving multi-sensory learning, it is also geared to engage the adults involved in children’s lives who look after and educate them.

“Go Safe, Ziggy’s Road Safety Mission” recognises the importance of starting early with the education process, developing positive attitudes and behaviours for life. As each book is centred on a different season or event, pupils can engage with Ziggy throughout the year, both within nursery and primary 1 classes. Children can even learn his catchphrase “zab-a-ding-a-doo”.

Pupils at Hollandbush Nursery in Hamilton took part in a recent event to promote the new materials.

Chair of South Lanarkshire Council’s Roads Safety Forum, Councillor John Murray, said: “This is an excellent resource, cleverly researched and developed. Everything has been planned from the use of “child eye level” photographs to the font of the storybook text.

“The stories are relevant, humorous and interactive – all geared towards engaging the child in their learning.

“My congratulations go to Hollandbush Nursery for implementing this so fully.”

Parents and carers are encouraged to visit the accompanying website to read the stories, play the games and watch the road safety videos. To visit the Ziggy website, log into www.gosafewithziggy.com



Photo shows pupils Cameron and Laura