



One of the most effective ways to save lives of walkers, bicyclists, and drivers is by reinforcing good transportation safety behaviors. However, like most parents, I can't be with my child all the time and I might not know some of the most common scenarios - like Dooring- that can put my child in the hospital. I learned about Dooring while sitting at a PTA meeting at my daughters' school; two of her classmates were in the hospital due to being hit by a car door while riding their bikes. I vowed to help educate families about Dooring and other dangerous transportation safety situations in a fun way that used repetition to reinforce safe actions.

Last year RPGA Studio, a nonprofit I found, designed a Transportation Safety residency with the help of 300 kids, CUNY interns, adults, and teachers. The residency incorporates performance art, an in-house designed transportation safety game, mentorship, writing, and hands on illustration to deliver a fun and impactful transportation safety experience to kids. And, unlike most residencies, this one doesn't end when we leave; Transportation Ambassadors keep 30 games and use them to go around to other classes, teach their peers, grow mentorship skills, and save lives. Below is some of the excellent feedback just from kids playing the game after we left.

“While walking down the street with my headphones, I thought of that crazy Penguin in that transportation safety game and took one headphone out of my ear.”

-CUNY Student

“When my dad went through the stop sign on our block I told him about Hanna the Hamster. He no longer goes through a stop sign ”

-4th Grade Student

I would love to bring this residency to your school. Ideally it works best with 3rd or 4th graders. The cost of the 4 session residency which includes 2-3 teachers each session (one can include a NYC substitute teacher allowing the primary teacher not to be present in the room) is \$1,500.00. I've included a detail sheet to explain the residency.

For additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at 718.433.4659.

I look forward to working with your school to ensure the safety of all of our kids

Yvonne Shortt'
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Pedestrian Penguin Residency Information

Goal

- Change behaviors around transportation safety to save lives.
- Educate kids about best practices to avoid transportation accidents.
- Use a fun transportation safety game, performance art, writing, and ELA to save lives for walkers, bicyclists, and drivers.
- Educate kids on dangerous streets in their community and the best actions to take at these locations.
- Build collaboration, mentorship, and leadership skills in the school community.
- Continue changing behaviors in the school after the residency ends through transportation ambassadors and 30 transportation safety games used to reinforce safe transportation actions.

Residency contains

Students act out common walking, bicycling, and driving scenarios that can cause accidents using props and music. This session is designed to get the students moving out of their seats, learning about transportation safety, and discussing ways to avoid potentially dangerous scenarios in a fun and interactive way.

Students play Pedestrian Penguin Transportation safety game. The game has 45 scenarios that demonstrate potentially dangerous situations. The game uses action cards that include common distractions, solutions, and strategies to avoid dangerous transportation situations. The game was designed with the help of many students in 3rd-8th grade, CUNY interns, parents, and teachers. in NYC

Students also design their own cards to be incorporated into the game. Students do research, illustrate a scene, and write that scene down on their very own scenario card. Their scene then becomes part of the game for other classes to use.

Before going into each school RPGA staff researches some of the most dangerous blocks in a 1 mile radius of the school and what are the most common causes of these accidents. RPGA incorporates this into the residency. Knowing the dangerous blocks in a community, some common causes of accidents at these locations, and tools to avoid getting hurt can lead to reduced accidents.

End of Residency

At the end of the residency students are asked to take the game home for two weeks. They have to play it with their family, friends... for two hours. At the end of two weeks their parents sign that they have played the game . If 70 percent of signatures/ 100 percent of games come back, the class get's an ice cream party.



3-4 students are selected to be transportation safety ambassadors and bring the game and props to the next class. The transportation safety ambassadors use a video to show the next class how to play the game and get the class to use props to demonstrate potentially dangerous situations.

In the past, one 4th grade class has taught another thereby extending the learning throughout the entire fourth grade. RPGA Studio will pay for up to 2 additional ice cream parties in one school year. RPGA will also train transportation ambassadors to go into another class.

Cost

\$1500.00 for a 4 week residency

Cost Includes

- Props left for the school
- 30 transportation safety card games left at the school
- Up to 3 ice cream parties for classes that bring the game home and play with other members
- A team of 2-3 teachers for residency
- 4 Sessions
- 45-60 minutes each session
- 2-3 teachers

About RPGA Studio

RPGA Studio is a nonprofit studio located in NYC. Our approach is to use creativity to address community issues; from hoops attached to garbage cans to promote throwing out trash to our Creative Challenge in 3D design and fabrication, RPGA is taking an innovative approach to making our community better. The studio has been teaching residencies in 3D design & fabrication, robotics, mural design, and design theory for 10 years. To learn more about the organization please visit www.rpgastudio.org