Behind the Wheel Curriculum

## **Drive 1- Parking Lot and Developing Basic Driving Actions**

**Skills Introduced and Addressed:** Stopping, Starting, Shifting, Backing, Steering, Signaling

Time Scheduled: 60 minutes

#### Lesson Objectives

- 1. Students will demonstrate pre-entry safety checks. Students will enter the vehicle and adjust mirrors, and be comfortably seated before starting the vehicle.
- 2. Students will demonstrate the ability to correct steering, control speed, move forward, complete right and left turns using signals and pull the vehicle to a curb and place in park.
- 3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of moving, stopping and securing the vehicle.

Time allotment	Description of Driving Task/Skill	Anticipated problems for novice drivers	Strategies to address identified problems
5 minutes	Introduce Pre-Entry checks	Skipping several important items	Give students a check list to follow
10 minutes	2. Introduce preparing to drive and practicing proper hand positions. Students will understand how to operate different tools in the car such as lights, turn signals, windshield wipers, etc. before we start our drive	Skipping several important items in preparing to drive such as not checking mirrors for proper visibility.	Give students a check list to follow
5 minutes	3. Introduce starting the engine	Turning the key to much	Show students how to start the engine and let go of the key
10 minutes	4. Introduce shifting gears and moving forward using the gas pedal and stopping smoothly using the	Pushing gas pedal to quickly and stopping to abruptly	Discuss gradually pushing on gas and brake pedals.

		brake pedal.		
10 minutes		Techniques in turning and backing up maneuvers.	Not turning smooth Having issues using mirrors with reversing	Discuss using hand over hand method and allowing steering wheel to go back into place after turning.
5 minutes		Approaching a curb and stopping at the curb.	Hitting the curb- judgement	Discuss lining the car up with the curb properly.
5 minute		Securing the vehicle for parking.	Fully stopping before placing into park	Remind students about changing gear procedures.
5 minutes	8.	Practice all previous skills listed above	Overall items that where problem areas in the previous drives	Discuss proper procedures in all driving techniques

## **Drive 2- Country Road Drive**

**Skills Introduced and Addressed:** Lane positioning, General driving behavior, Managing space around the vehicle by adjusting speed and position to avoid conflicts and reduce risk, Sharing the road with other vehicles with special emphasis on motorcycles, bicycles, and large trucks, Speed zones

Time Allotted: 60 minutes

#### Lesson Objectives:

- 1. Students will make the sequence of checks learned from the first drive prior to entering the car. Students will then enter the car and make adjustments of visibility, communication, protective and comfort devices before stating the vehicle.
- 2. Students will demonstrate the proper procedure for starting the vehicle and preparing to move from a stopped position.
- 3. Students will use proper steering procedures when steering straight ahead, through curves and turns in country roads.

Time allotment	Description of Driving Task/Skill	Anticipated problems for novice drivers	Strategies to address identified problems
2 minutes	1. Pre Entry checks	Skipping several important items	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	2. Preparing to drive and practicing proper hand positions. Students will understand how to operate different tools in the car such as lights, turn signals, windshield wipers, etc. before we start our drive	Skipping several important items in preparing to drive such as not checking mirrors for proper visibility.	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	3. Entering traffic from side of the road	Turning the key to much	Show students how to start the engine and let go of the key
29 minutes	4. Driving on a Country road, turning, driving up and down hills,	Anticipation, problems slowing into curves and adjusting	Remind students to slow into curves and adjust speed when

	and approaching and driving in curves in the road.	speed	going to hill and up hill.
5 minutes	5. Concentrating on path of travel and sharing the roadway.	Keeping the vehicle in the center of the lane	Remind students to keep the vehicle in the center of the lane using their front tires as a guide
5 minutes	6. Turning at intersections	Watching all around	Make sure to check left, right, left again
5 minute	7. Stopping at stop signs	Coming to a full stop and looking for a clear path	Stop at stop sign and count to two before going into the intersection
5 minutes	8. Practice a safe following distance and managing speed.	Following too close	Keep a 2 second following distance from the car in front of you.

## **Drive 3- Interstate Drive and Parallel Parking**

**Skills Introduced and Addressed:** Distracted driving, Parallel parking, Lane changing, Merging

Allotted time: 60 minutes

#### **Lesson Objectives**

- 1. Students will demonstrate proper visual checks and proper time and space gaps when merging into traffic on the interstate.
- 2. Students will practice turning into an intersection by stop signs or traffic signals, and practice using proper turn signals and checking blind spots.
- 3. Students will practice positioning a vehicle in a lane, changing lanes and entering or exiting traffic from a merging lane or exit ramp.

Time allotment	Description of Driving Task/Skill	Anticipated problems for novice drivers	Strategies to address identified problems
2 minutes	1. Pre Entry checks	Skipping several important items	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	2. Preparing to drive and practicing proper hand positions. Students will understand how to operate different tools in the car such as lights, turn signals, windshield wipers, etc. before we start our drive	Skipping several important items in preparing to drive such as not checking mirrors for proper visibility.	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	3. Starting the engine	Turning the key to much	Show students how to start the engine and let go of the key
29 minutes	4. Students will turn into intersections and merge onto the interstate with the flow of traffic.  Student will be	Not speeding up to merge into traffic	Tell students to increase speed as they merge into traffic. When merging they should be going the same speed as traffic on the interstate.

	instructed to look and identify distracted drivers.		
10 minutes	5. Students will make lane changes on the interstate using turn signals and checking mirrors and blind spots each time.	Not checking blind spots and not signaling	Remind students to look over their shoulder to check blind spot and signal before moving the vehicle.
5 minutes	6. Students will take an exit off of the interstate and then reenter the interstate merging with the flow of traffic	Slowing down off the interstate and speeding up to get back on the interstate.	Students need to signal, slow as they merge off the interstate and increasing speed staying even with cars when entering back on to the interstate.
5 minute	7. Students will work or parallel parking	Students will struggle with concept and understanding the 3 step process	Student may get confused
5 minutes	8. Student and instructor will discuss any areas of concern and areas to improve interstate driving and parallel parking.		

## **Drive 4- In Town Drive/ Parking**

Skills Introduced and Addressed: School zones, Intersections,

Allotted Time: 60 minutes

#### Lesson Objectives

- 1. Students will demonstrate proper time and space gaps when engaging in traffic while driving in town traffic.
- 2. Students will demonstrate visual awareness, control steering and speed while entering and exiting angle parking spaces and perpendicular parking spaces.
- 3. Students will demonstrate visual awareness, control steering and speed while parking parallel.

Time allotment	Description of Driving Task/Skill	Anticipated problems for novice drivers	Strategies to address identified problems
2 minutes	1. Pre Entry checks	Skipping several important items	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	2. Preparing to drive and practicing proper hand positions. Students will understand how to operate different tools in the car such as lights, turn signals, windshield wipers, etc. before we start our drive	Skipping several important items in preparing to drive such as not checking mirrors for proper visibility.	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	3. Starting the engine	Turning the key to much	Show students how to start the engine and let go of the key
29 minutes	4. Students will drive in town through school zones, changing lanes using turn signals, stopping at stop lights and stop signs and all	Not signaling when changing lanes. Stopping fully at stop signs. Not checking blind spots	Remind students before a lane change to signal, check over the shoulder blind spots and stop fully for a count of two at stop signs.

	other appropriate road rules		
10 minutes	Students will practice parking in various angle and perpendicular parking spaces and then exit those parking spaces	Staying between the parking spot lines. Backing up slowly checking for traffic while backing up	Remind students to slowly move in reverse and look back
10 minutes	Students will practice several times parallel parking at various in town locations being sure to use turn signal, mirrors and checking blind spots when appropriate.	Getting close enough to the curb, bringing the car to a 45 degree angle during the park	Help students look and judge the cars while parking.
5 minute	Discuss any questions concerning parking and in town driving	Any questions or concerns the students are having	clarify

#### Drive 5- School to Home and back to School

**Skills Introduced and Addressed:** Railroad-highway grade crossing safety, Dual lanes and multi-lanes

**Allotted Time: 60 minutes** 

### **Learning Objectives:**

- 1. Students will demonstrate proper knowledge of merging into traffic, intersections and other roadway obstacles while completing a drive to their home from the school.
- 2. Students will adjust speed and position of the car to reduce risk in response to other vehicles and drivers on the roadway.
- **3.** Students will adjust body position to improve their visual space while steering and keep speed controlled when completing a three point turn around and during the drive in general.

Time allotment	Description of Driving Task/Skill	Anticipated problems for novice drivers	Strategies to address identified problems
2 minutes	1. Pre Entry checks	Skipping several important items	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	2. Preparing to drive and practicing proper hand positions. Students will understand how to operate different tools in the car such as lights, turn signals, windshield wipers, etc. before we start our drive	Skipping several important items in preparing to drive such as not checking mirrors for proper visibility.	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	3. Starting the engine	Turning the key to much	Show students how to start the engine and let go of the key
29 minutes	4. Students will concentrate on driving in traffic, making lane changes, driving while going through curves and various other roadway issues while	Checking blind spots, maintaining proper speed, staying within the lanes of the road.	Remind students before they make a lane change. Remind students to check the speed limit signs on all roadways.

	driving to their home from the school including going through Dual/Multi Lanes and also Railroad Crossings when available.		
5 minutes	5. Students will arrive at their home and complete a three point turn around in their driveway	Turning doing the three point turn around	Remind students to pull in to the driveway and use signals and check mirrors to back up properly
15 minutes	Students will drive from their home back to the school	Staying within the lanes of the road. Checking speed limit signs and stopping fully at all stop signs	Remind students prior to stops. Count to 2 before leaving a stop sign. Have students check speed limit signs on all roadways
5 minutes	Discuss any questions or concerns.		, ,

# Drive 6- Completion of All Skills/Review/Reinforce Areas of Weakness/ Work on Areas of Choice

Skills Introduced and Addressed: All Skills revisited and reinforced.

**Allotted Time:** 60 minutes

#### Learning Objectives:

- 1. Students will demonstrate proper techniques for all areas covered in the course during the final hour of instruction.
- 2. Students will adjust body position to improve their visual space while steering and keep speed controlled when completing all tasks.
- 3. Students will demonstrate proper time and space gaps when engaging in traffic while driving in town traffic.
- 4. Students will focus on all aspects of previously learned skills and concepts.

Time allotment	Description of Driving Task/Skill	Anticipated problems for novice drivers	Strategies to address identified problems
2 minutes	1. Pre Entry checks	Skipping several important items	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	2. Preparing to drive and practicing proper hand positions. Students will understand how to operate different tools in the car such as lights, turn signals, windshield wipers, etc. before we start our drive	Skipping several important items in preparing to drive such as not checking mirrors for proper visibility.	Give students a check list to follow
2 minutes	3. Starting the engine	Turning the key to much	Show students how to start the engine and let go of the key
29 minutes	4. Students will complete all areas of interest that are critical to successful driving including but not limited to:	Speed, checking blind spots, turning lanes and parking	During simulated drive test there can be no instruction.

	Backing up, Parallel Parking, School Zones, Merging, etc.		
10 minutes	5. Students will practice any remaining areas they feel they need practice with after the drive test.	Usually they choose to practice parking	Remind all procedures of all types of parking
10 minutes	Students practice parking, turning, and lane position on moderately busy roadways	Keeping in center of lane and parking using proper procedures	Remind students to center their vehicle and use all precautions while parking including utilizing mirrors in the car
5 minutes	Discuss any questions or concerns.		