

# Appendix #10

## Shared Reading Activity

### Zach's First Day of School

"Time to get up Zachary," Zach could hear his mother yelling down the hall. Zach groaned, slowly turning his head towards the clock. 7:30 a.m., that's the time Zach's mother began her morning routine of trying to get Zach out of bed. "Why does school have to start so early?" Zach complained. Zach slowly made his way to the bathroom. He reached for his toothbrush and toothpaste and turned on the tap. **(STOP AND READ PERSON #1)**

Zach sat down at the kitchen table just as his father placed a big bowl of his favourite cereal in front of him. "We really need to get moving this morning Zach; we've got an extra stop on our way to school." "Extra stop?" asked Zach. "Yup" replied his father. "Your mother has a doctor's appointment this morning and she needs us to drop your little sister off at the daycare." **(STOP AND READ PERSON #2)**

Zach, his father, and little sister Emma began their walk to the bus stop. They had not gone very far when all of a sudden they heard sirens approaching them, getting louder and louder. Just as Zach was about to turn around two police cars drove past them. Another set of sirens could be heard down the street, this time an ambulance drove by them. **(STOP AND READ PERSON #3)**

Zach was first to reach the intersection, which they would need to cross in order to get to the bus stop across the street. "Remember to wait for the walking man to light up" Zach's father reminded him. **(STOP AND READ PERSON #4)**

As they made their way across the street a man driving in his car tossed his coffee cup out the window. "Hey" shouted Zach, "that's littering!" Zach bent down to pick up the garbage the man had thrown onto the sidewalk, and walked over to a garbage can and tossed it in. "That's where we throw our garbage", said Zach. **(STOP AND READ PERSON #5)**

Shortly after the garbage incident, the bus arrived. Zach and Emma were first to get on, their father followed them and put money into the fare box/toll box. **(STOP AND READ PERSON #6)**

1) STOP AND READ: Did you know that the clean water flowing from our taps comes from the municipal water supply? Toronto's main source of water is Lake Ontario, but before the water reaches the pipes in our homes, schools and other buildings in the city, it must be cleaned before it is considered safe for Torontonians to drink and use. Clean water in Toronto comes from one of four water treatment/filtration plants, most of which are located along Lakeshore.

2) STOP AND READ: How many people have a brother or sister who goes to a day care? Many families in the Toronto area depend on the city to provide them with child care programs. Child care services allow parents to go about their daily lives whether they are going to work or school, while knowing that their kids are being cared for and safe.

3) STOP AND READ: The municipal government provides many essential services such as ambulances and police officers. Municipalities provide safe neighbourhoods with emergency response services such as Police and Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

4) STOP AND READ: On your way to school today all of you must have used either a road or sidewalk to get here. The city of Toronto is responsible for maintaining roads, sidewalks, pedestrian crosswalks, and traffic signals, all of which help keep our roads safe for pedestrians.

5) STOP AND READ: Every week a garbage truck passes through your neighbourhood to pick up everybody's garbage and recycling. But do you know where this garbage goes? Most of what we throw away is taken to landfills. Landfills are large holes dug into the ground and filled with waste. The city tries to limit the amount of garbage going into these landfills by encouraging citizens to practice the 3 R's, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. The municipal government collects, transports, and sorts through all of the city's garbage and recycling.

6) STOP AND READ: Some of you may have used public transit (e.g., the subway, streetcar or bus) to get to school today. Have you ever thought about what allows people in the city to move around from one place to another? The municipal government also looks after the transit system.