

Pointers **For Parents**

Get On The Bus

(NAPSA)—Riding a big yellow school bus when you are five or six years old can seem pretty scary, but there's a lot parents can do to make it fun, not fearsome.

John O'Leary, president and CEO of Thomas Built Buses, a leading manufacturer of school buses in North America, offers a few simple suggestions.



Photo: Thomas Built Buses

Before school starts, ride with your child on a school bus. Ask the principal to request a bus for your school for a trial ride. Many districts offer rides during open houses before the first day of school.

Check with your neighbors to see if there is another child who could be your child's bus buddy. New experiences are more fun when they're shared.

Walk with your child to the bus stop so she knows where to wait, and make sure you or another responsible adult is there to meet her when she returns.

Introduce your child to the driver. Reassure her that her teacher will help her get on the right bus to come home. Soon your child will be well on her way to becoming a happy bus rider.