



Safety is for Sharing: A Vision Zero Story

There was a young girl named Maya who was known for her curiosity and eagerness to learn new things. One sunny afternoon, as she was riding her bike around the Willowbrook neighbourhood, Maya noticed something that made her stop in her tracks. A group of younger kids were gathered near the busy intersection, looking uncertain about crossing the road.

Maya decided to lend a helping hand. She parked her bike by the curb and approached the group with a friendly smile. "Hey there," Maya said cheerfully. "Are you guys trying to cross the street?"

The kids nodded, their eyes wide with a mix of excitement and hesitation. "No worries," Maya reassured them. "I can help you with that. First, we need to make sure there are no cars coming. So, let's all stand here at the edge and look both ways."

Maya led by example, demonstrating how to carefully peek left and right before proceeding. The younger kids imitated her, their heads swiveling as they took in her guidance. "Great job," Maya encouraged. "Now, see that 'walk' sign over there? When it lights up, that means it's safe to cross. But remember, even when it's on, always look one more time before stepping onto the road."

Just as she finished explaining, the pedestrian signal changed, indicating it was safe to cross. Maya stood by the kids' side as they took their first steps onto the road, making sure they continued to look out for any unexpected cars.

As they reached the other side, the younger kids wore triumphant smiles, proud of their accomplishment. Maya congratulated them and shared a high-five with each one.

From that day on, Maya became the go-to person for street safety advice in Willowbrook. She started organizing little workshops after school, teaching her peers



and even some adults about the importance of looking both ways, making eye contact with drivers, and using hand signals when biking or scootering.

Word spread about Maya's helpful workshops, and soon enough, the whole town was buzzing with street safety awareness. Thanks to Maya's initiative, kids and grown-ups alike were equipped with the knowledge they needed to stay safe while navigating the roads.

And so, Maya's small act of kindness and her willingness to share what she knew about street safety turned into a town-wide movement. Her dedication to helping others became an inspiring example of how a single person can make a significant impact, one safe step at a time.