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Can we cross the street in time?

Math. Teach. Middle Sch. 19, No. 2, 86-93 (2013).

Summary: In the authors' examination of various instructional programs, they observed that most provide all the necessary data to solve proportion problems, employ compatible numbers that are usually unrealistic, present numbers (data) in the order in which they are to be manipulated, discuss contexts that cannot be easily replicated, and present settings that are of little interest to students (e.g., grouping paint cans, making cupcakes, or arranging birthday candles). The authors of this article created a challenging real-world problem situated in a venue familiar to students. This article describes The Walk Light project, which focuses on ratios, proportions, and proportional reasoning. This is a project in which students stroll through distance, rate, and time experiments on the road to strengthening their understanding of proportionality. (ERIC)

Classification: F83 D83 M93

Keywords: mathematical concepts; activities; misconceptions; proportionality; real-life problems; rate; ratio
<http://www.nctm.org/publications/article.aspx?id=39269>