

Topic: Transportation

Activity: Getting Around in the United States: A Lesson Plan for Use With Darfuri Refugees

Objectives	Participants will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ explain that it takes time to learn how to get around in a new community✓ identify some aspects of transportation in the United States that may be familiar or different from previous experiences
Lesson Time	50 minutes
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Darfuri Refugees in the United States</i> (http://www.cal.org/co/videos/Darfuris/Darfuris.html)• Internet access, laptop, projector, and screen, or DVD, television, and DVD player• Flipchart paper, markers, tape• <i>Getting Around in the United States: Images Worksheet</i>, 1 per participant (included)• Writing implements, 1 per participant (to accompany worksheets)• Optional: <i>Getting Around in the United States: Quotes Worksheet</i>, 1 per participant (included)
Introduction	No matter what your background or education level, getting around a new place can be very challenging. Also, customs and laws will probably be very different in the United States from what you have encountered. So getting places by walking, taking public transportation, or driving will probably take some time and practice before you become comfortable.
Viewing Activities	<p>Tell participants that the group will now watch a 25-minute video of interviews with Darfuri refugees resettled in the United States. Ask participants to pay special attention to what the speakers are saying about getting around, and how some of the images may be similar or different from what you have experienced and seen before.</p> <p>View <i>Darfuri Refugees in the United States</i>.</p>
Practice	<p>In small groups of 3-4, participants discuss what was said about getting around in the United States and what was similar or different in the video compared to what they have seen before. Encourage participants to share how they are feeling about these potential changes. Remind participants to refer to their worksheets to remind them what was said in the video.</p> <p>Bring the large group together and ask for highlights from the small group discussions. Record responses on a flipchart.</p>
Discussion Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How are you feeling about finding your way around in the United States?• What transportation options were familiar? Which were different?• What do you think will be easier to learn? What might be more challenging?• Who do you think might be able to help you learn how to get around in your new U.S. community?
Variations	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. When working with more literate participants, distribute <i>Getting Around in the</i>

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United States: Quotes Worksheet. After viewing the video, participants complete the worksheet and discuss their answers in small groups. These quotes can also be utilized during the large group discussion to highlight other related topics discussed in the video.

Key English Vocabulary

car

school bus

to pick up

feeling

to drive

to walk

public bus

to get around

transportation

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Getting Around in the United States: Images Worksheet

Directions: As you watch the DVD, look for the images below.
Put a check (✓) in the box next to the image when you see the image.



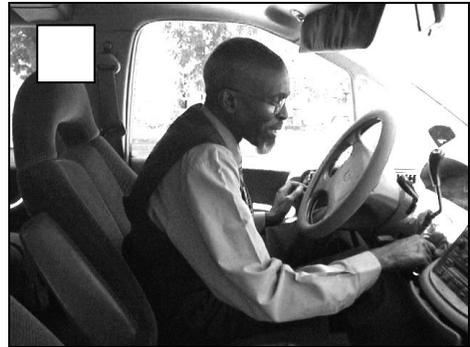
Nadiwa Khamis



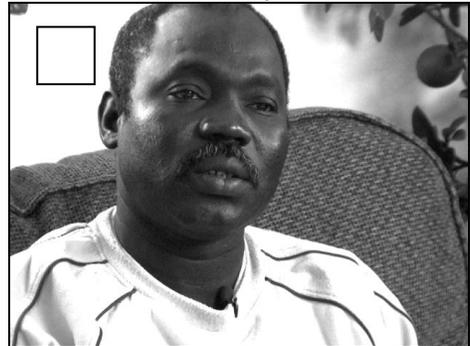
Abdul Shakur



Siham Abdallah Hassan



Adam Tagir



Adam Mohammed Babiker



Khadija Ali



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Getting Around in the United States: Quotes Worksheet

Directions: Read the quote from the DVD. Decide if the information is similar or different from your past experiences, and how it might affect your lifestyle in the United States.

Quote	Similar or different?	How do you feel about these messages?
<p><u>Adam Tagir:</u> I take the car to the airport bus station. When I take my car to the bus station, I park my car there.</p>		
<p><u>Khadija Ali:</u> I leave at 8 or 8:20 am and take the bus to work. I take the bus to work and I work for 4 hours per day. I leave my job at 1 pm and I'm home by 2 pm.</p>		
<p><u>Siham Abdallah Hassan:</u> Here, it's easy to go to school because we take a school bus. It's not like the way it was back home in Chad.</p>		
<p><u>Nadjwa Khamis Adam:</u> Of the problems I've been facing here, there's one [big] problem – driving. I don't have a car. Every time we go to the office or when we go to the market for shopping, we have to call our Darfuri friends to pick us up.</p>		
<p><u>Adam Mohammed Babiker:</u> Driving here is different from Sudan. Here, when you drive there are signs for speed limits. Secondly, when you drive in the city, there are other signs that say "stop." When the traffic light is red, all the cars stop. When the light is green, it's your turn to drive. The speed limit varies from city to city. Within the cities, there are different signs for speed limits. There are a lot of cars within the city. Sometimes, there are three lanes going in the same direction.</p>		
<p><u>Abdul Shakur:</u> ...when you arrive at the airport ... the agency representatives will meet you at the airport. They will take you to your house or apartment in the city where you will be located.</p>		

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