Lesson 4

Objective: To understand the rules of the road and the meaning of signs.

**Questions to ponder**:

What are some rules you know about driving on the roadway?

What is the purpose of roadway signs?

Do signs in NH mean the same if you go to other states?

Does the color and shape of a sign have any significant meaning?

**Lesson**

The color and the shape of a sign allows you to pick out signs quickly and without much thought

**The following colors have special meaning**:

Red – stop or do not do something ( anytime you see red you must stop first)

Green – direction or guidance (exit signs or miles to a city)

Blue – driver services ( on bottom of exit signs and tell you what is available if you get off at exit. Motel)

Yellow – general warning ( warn you of curves, hills, railroad crossings)

White – law or rule( speed limit or no U turn)

Orange – construction zone or road work ( flagman ahead)

Brown – tourist and recreation area( see lots in Franconia Notch)

**The following shapes have special meaning too**:

Octagon (8 sided) – stop signs

Down pointed triangle – yield sign, slow down and if no traffic you may proceed

Pennant (sidewise triangle )- no passing and found on left side of the roadway

Diamond - warning signs

Rectangle –( box shaped)- regulation or guidance

Pentagon -(shaped like a school house) – school zone or school crossing

Circle – advance warning of railroad crossing

Crossbuck (X)- marks spot of railroad crossing

A POLICE OFFICER DIRECTING TRAFFIC OVERRULES ANY TRAFFIC LIGHT OR SIGN

Route signs:

Interstate route signs are numbered so that **even** numbers run **east and west (84)**

Interstate route signs with **odd** numbers run **north and sout (91 and 93)**

Three numbered route sings with an odd first number are going into a city (393)

Three numbered route signs with an even first number go around a city (293)

**Traffic lights control major intersections**  The are always Red, yellow and green.

Red - stop before stop line or crosswalk. You may go right on red if there is no sign prohibiting it. However you must look at the walk and do not walk sign. If it says DON’T WALK, you may turn after you yield to pedestrians. You can NEVER go right on red if there is a steady or flashing walk signal being displayed. A flashing red light acts just like a stop sign. You must come to a complete stop and then turn or go when it is safe to do so. If solid red you cannot go until it changes to green. If there is a red arrow you cannot turn left on a red arrow. However, you can turn right on red after you come to complete stop and check for signs prohibiting it.

Yellow – caution the light is about to change to red. This light allows cars to clear the intersection. Do not try to beat the light. If you have already entered the intersection you must stop. A flashing yellow means that you can proceed with caution. Scan the intersection to see if there could be a trouble spot.

Green - go when safe to do so. Always yield to pedestrians and vehicles in intersection. If green arrow, you must go in direction of the arrow. If you see flashing green arrow on a light, it means you must yield to oncoming traffic. The traffic coming through has the right of way.

Review PowerPoint slides 1 – 14

Out of class assignment:

On your way home today make a list of some signs you saw on the roadway. What kind of signs did you observe and why were they there?