

Vehicle obstacle course

Create a vehicle obstacle course to inspire children to take active journeys using wheeled toys.

Learning aims

- Support children's gross motor development (stability, visual perception, coordination and general health and well-being)
- Develop spatial awareness as they navigate themselves around the course
- Understand basic rules to follow including where to start, end, sharing and turn-taking
- Mathematical language as they go over and under aspects of the course, and numbers as they time how long it takes them and how far they have travelled.

Resources

- Wheeled toys to suit the different ages/stages of the children, for example, three-wheeled trikes, two-wheeled bikes with and without stabilisers, scooters and go-karts
- Cones
- Ramps (can be made with pieces of wood)
- Balance beams
- Hurdles to drive under. You could use equipment such as a noodle to drive under
- Start and finish signs
- Zigzags, arrows/lines to show the course outline. You could use chalk and involve the children
- Stop clock, odometer and paper.

Activity Outline

1. Choose 24 stories that are appropriate for the children in your group. These could be Christmas-themed or just popular stories that you know they will love. They do not need to be brand new, they could be books that have been lurking in the back of a cupboard!
2. Wrap each storybook in Christmas paper
3. Label each book with a number from 1-24 (if you are going to carry on until Christmas Eve)
4. Put the books in a basket, in the correct order
5. Explain the activity to the children before it begins. Having the books in sight, will build anticipation and excitement
6. When introducing the activity each day, ensure you look at and talk about the number on each book and what it means (where appropriate)
7. Allow the children to unwrap the book and then enjoy a group story-time
8. Once the story has been read, it can be left out for the children to enjoy again and again throughout the day. Revisiting stories allows children to benefit from learning through repetition and familiarity.

Extending the activity

- Involve the children where age/stage appropriate to design and create the course, have a look online for ideas. Make it lots of fun by including extra bits to the course over the week, for example, a bike wash to go through, water balloons to pop as they ride over or skittles to knockdown
- Support younger children to go around the track, you may also use things such as wheeled cars or create smaller tracks for toy cars to travel on
- Create a bike/trike/scooter treasure hunt where you encourage the children to ride between points of the outdoor nursery area and solve clues to find the next location, you could use photos to help
- Encourage families to travel to the setting where possible on their bike/trike/scooter and/or have a 'Bring your Favourite Wheeled Toy to Nursery Day'
- Share further details about local bike tracks/skate parks with families.



Special considerations

Remember to risk assess the activity highlighting the benefits as well as the risks involved. Ensure children wear all necessary safety equipment.