



whatcom county
library system

Preschool Theme Kits MACHINES



BOX CONTENTS

BOOKS

**Old MacDonald had a
Woodshop**

Lisa Shulman

**Curious George and the Dump
Truck**

H. A. Rey

**Building Machines and What
They Do**

Derek Radford

Get to Work, Trucks

Don Carter

Machines at Work : Tractor

Dorling Kindersley

**Mike Mulligan & His Steam
Shove (Book with CD)**

Virginia Lee Burton

Construction Zone

Tana Hoban

I Love Trucks

Philemon Sturges

Machines at Work

Byron Barton

DVD

I Dig Dirt

TOY

Vehicle Mini Puzzle Pack

ADULT RESOURCES

**Vroom! Vroom! Making
'Dozers, 'Copters, Trucks &
More**

Judy Press

ACTIVITY NOTEBOOK

**BEYOND THE KITS THEMES
HANDBOOK**

FOR YOU: a copy of these activities
is available in back of this notebook.

Welcome to the *Machines* Theme Kit. Our target age group is 2 to 5 year olds but we have included at least one board book for babies to use. All these books read aloud well, and there are activities, finger plays, and teacher guides to help you. Also, take a look at the general information sheet on the inside cover of this notebook. ENJOY!

Related Activities

-Fun and Games-

THE BOOKS IN THIS KIT

Don't know the names or uses of all the machinery we see around us? Don't worry – the books in this kit provide their own answers! The children will love them and everyone will learn as you read, reread, and study the pictures.

GUESS WHAT'S MISSING *

Using the vehicle puzzle pieces included in this kit, play this memory game at group time. Put 3 or 4 vehicles on tray. Let the children help you name all the machines. Have children close their eyes and take one away. When they open their eyes, let them guess which one is missing. *Extension:* to make the game harder, put 5 or 6 pieces out at once, remove more than one at a time. Children can play this with each other during free time.

VROOM! VROOM! Adult Resource

There are directions for every sort of moving machine, made out of milk cartons (use different sizes), egg cartons, card board boxes, paper cups and plates, and towel tubes. You might get help from parents collecting these basics.

JUICE LID GAMES *

Collect the metal ends of frozen juice cans (parents can help). To create easy games with machines, vehicles and/or tools, you can find appropriate stickers or just draw pictures of different machines on each lid with a permanent pen. Make two of each machine and the children can use them in a variety of games. Try some of these.

Matching: Lay the lids face down, let children take turns and see if they can turn over two at a time that match. If they don't match, turn them back picture side down, and try again. When they get a match, set the pair aside.

For younger children, just put out all the lids and let them find a match.

Fishing: use a small magnet on a string to have your children go fishing for a match.

Toddlers: toddlers like to collect these lids in a bucket or other container and dump them out, and recollect them. You can talk about the pictures as they do.

Variations: you can put a strip of magnetic tape on the backs. Use them for games with a cookie sheet. You can also make "machine" cards with card stock. Use stickers or draw cars on the juice lids.

**Activities courtesy of the Early Childhood Office of the Seattle Public Library.*

SIMPLE MACHINES

Did you know that “modern” machinery is based on five simple machines: the lever, wheel, inclined plane, screw, and wedge? These simple machines have been known and used since ancient times. You probably have all of them present in your home/daycare/preschool.

Make a collection of some of these tools/machines and let the children work with them, with supervision:

Lever: soda pop-top, hammer (the nail puller *and* head), scissors, a screwdriver or stick when used to pry open lids, wrenches, a teeter-totter.

Wheels: obvious choices, but also doorknobs, dowels, cogs and gears.

Inclined plane: rooftops (rain and snow slide off), slides, blocks, ramps, steps (!).

Wedge- like an inclined plane, but works differently: nail, ax (not for children!) , teeth, doorstop, chisel, hand saw.

Screw- any machine with threads: screw, bolts with or without washers, drill bit, spiral slide, food grinder (with handle), faucet.

For more information about “simple tools”, call your library and reserve a book.



GETTING DOWN TO NUTS AND BOLTS

This requires careful supervision if you have very small children in your care (or any who still put everything in their mouths).

From a hardware store, get a few large bolts (the ones with flat ends), in different sizes, if you wish. Get the matching nuts. Put them in a basket or on a tray and let the children assemble and disassemble them, by hand. *Hint:* to make it easier, mark matching nut and bolt with the same color.

Maybe some children will be coordinated enough to use a wrench too!

Machines Theme Kit

Questions or Suggestions:

Call the Youth Services Dept.
at (360) 384-3150

-Fingerplays and Action Rhymes-



I'LL DRIVE A DUMP TRUCK

In **Little Songs for Little Me**, used with permission from Nancy Stewart. Visit her website at www.nancymusic.com

I'll drive a dump truck, dump truck
dump truck
I'll drive a dump truck all day long.

I'll drive a backhoe, backhoe,
backhoe
I'll drive a backhoe all day long.

Everyone keeps time by slapping hands on thighs. You can hold up the pictures in I Love Trucks or Construction Zone to show the next vehicle to drive. This song or chant can go on indefinitely as you think of vehicles to drive.

MY NAME IS JOE

Repeat the verse, each time adding an action.

Hi, my name is Joe
And I work in the button factory
I have a wife and two kids
One day my boss said to me

“Are you busy Joe?”
I said, “no”.

He said, “then push this button
with your right hand.”

Repeat, adding:
... with your left hand
... with right foot
... with your left foot
... with your hip
... with your head

Last verse:
And one day my boss said to me,
“Are you busy, Joe?”
I said “YES!”

JOHNNY'S HAMMER

Very fun!

Johnny pounds with one hammer
Pounding motion with one fist.
One hammer, one hammer
Johnny pounds with one hammer
All day long.

Johnny pounds with two hammers
Pounding motion with two fists.
Two hammers, two hammers...

Johnny pounds with three hammers...
Both fists and one foot
Johnny pounds with four hammers...
Both fists and both feet

Johnny pounds with five hammers...
Both fists and both feet, nodding head

Johnny is so tired now,
Tired now, tired now
Johnny is so tired now, all day long.
Hands in fists, feet quiet, 'sag' gently

Johnny goes to sleep now,
Sleep now, sleep now.
Johnny goes to sleep now.
All night long.
Put head on hands, eyes closed.



How You Can Help

- Use and return kits promptly so that they are available for others.
- Please check box contents before returning.
- Do not use the book drop. Please return kits inside an open library.