



Ideas for Playing Together with Vehicles



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1. Follow a child's lead. As child moves a toy car around the floor or dirt, follow them. Narrate actions and where you're going. E.g., *Going fast. Up and down.*
2. Create roads together in dirt and follow the paths. Talk about different things you might see. Pretend! *Oh look. Cows. Moo cows, moo!*
3. Draw a map together on large paper. Add trees, animals, places, etc. Present directions for the child to follow around the map. E.g., *Go past the cows. Now go to the bridge and park your car. Let's go to that restaurant!*
4. Let the child give you directions to follow. Purposely go in the wrong direction and ask for help. Encourage them to correct your errors.
5. Pretend to go to a zoo, hospital, or restaurant and create a related scenario. E.g., *After buying tickets, shall we go see monkeys or lions first?*
6. Match vehicles by color, size, use, number of wheels, etc.
7. Categorize vehicles by where they're used - land, air, water, etc. Label and discuss similarities and differences. State your reasons for pairing.
8. Add animals into the vehicle play.
9. Label and talk about the parts on the vehicles. E.g., wheels, doors, seats. Compare and count the number of parts on the vehicles.
10. Make up a story as you play together. Take turns adding parts to the story relating to vehicles and travel.
11. Find a broken vehicle and together problem solve how to fix it.
12. Discuss and draw new vehicles. Consider various uses for the vehicles. Consider ones that go on water and land. Or in the air and under water.

Pretending together increases comfort with creativity, expanding thinking.

