**Theme: TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation is part of our everyday lives. When we go to school, to the store, or to visit family and friends, we use different modes of transportation. Children can learn about transportation through books, learning activities, and play.

**Talk About:**
Talk with the children about different types of transportation. Show them pictures of cars, trucks, buses, trains, boats, helicopters, and airplanes. Tell them about the transportation you use. Invite the children to tell stories of times they have traveled.

**Read Together:**
*Read Wheels on the Bus* by Raffi; stop and ask questions as you read the story. Encourage the children to talk about their thoughts and ideas. Some questions that you might ask to spark conversation are:

- Why are the wheels on the bus going round and round?
- Look at the pictures, what are you noticing?
- Why are the wipers on the bus going swish, swish, swish?
- What other vehicles have wipers?
- Why did the driver on the bus say, “Move on back?”
- What made the people on the bus go up and down?
- How did the people feel when the horn went beep, beep. beep? How do you know?
- What did the baby on the bus do?
- What did the parents on the bus do?
- Tell about a time that you were on a bus. What did you see, hear and feel? Where were you going?

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<tr>
<th><strong>MUSIC/MOVEMENT</strong></th>
<th><strong>RHYME AND FINGER PLAY</strong></th>
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| Sing together: *Wheels on the Bus*  
(Music is on the last page of the book)  
Encourage children to make sounds and motions when singing the story.  
**Take a Trip**  
(Sung to the tune: Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star)  
Take a bus or take a train  
Take a boat or take a plane,  
Take a taxi, take a car,  
Maybe near or maybe far  
Take a spaceship to the moon,  
But be sure to come back soon.  
Transportation is the way,  
How we travel night or day.  
**Row, Row, Row Your Boat**  
Row, row, row your boat,  
Gently down the stream.  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Life is but a dream. | **Windshield Wiper**  
I’m a windshield wiper (bend arm at elbow with fingers pointing up)  
This is how I go (move arm left and right, pivoting at elbow)  
Back and forth, back and forth (continue back and forth motion)  
In the rain and snow (continue back and forth motion). |

**LANGUAGE**

Rhyme Time: What are words that rhyme with _________ (name of a vehicle)? Elicit words from children. Make a chart with the words and draw a picture of each word.

For example: **Car**
- Far
- Jar
- Tar
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<tr>
<th>ART ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>SCIENCE/COOKING</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Name Trains</strong> Help the children glue squares with the letters of their name onto a strip of construction paper to make a name train. You can add a paper engine and draw on the wheels.</td>
<td><strong>Traffic Light Cookies</strong> Children can make traffic light cookies by mixing red, green and yellow food coloring with white icing, and spread the icing onto three vanilla wafers.</td>
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<td><strong>Craft Stick Airplanes</strong> Children can use craft sticks and colored masking tape to create airplanes.</td>
<td><strong>Marshmallow Trains</strong> Children can make marshmallow trains. Use pretzel sticks to hook the “cars” together and use peanut butter to glue cheerios on as wheels and other features.</td>
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<td><strong>Egg Carton Bus</strong> Children can make buses with egg cartons. Have them cut the lid off an egg carton. Paint or color the lid. Make the wheels out of construction paper or the lids of a milk container. Cut out images of people from magazines and glue them on the bus.</td>
<td><strong>Float or Sink?</strong> Children can try to make boats out of clay (or tin foil) that will float in water. Let them explore whether different shapes float or sink. Children can make traffic light cookies by mixing red, green and yellow food coloring with white icing, and spread the icing onto three vanilla wafers.</td>
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<td><strong>Here We Go Collage</strong> Have the children draw pictures of cars, trucks, trains, airplanes, helicopters, buses etc. Cut out the pictures and glue them onto a sheet of craft paper.</td>
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<td><strong>DRAMATIC PLAY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Make a Bus or a Train</strong> Make a bus or a train out of a large box. If you go to an appliance store they may give you a large box. You can cut out windows and a door. Paint and decorate your bus or train. You can also line up chairs to make a train or a bus. One child can be the driver or the conductor. You can make paper tickets or tokens for the bus or the train. If you can get a conductor’s hat or other dress up clothes, they would add to the adventure.</td>
<td><strong>SUGGESTED APPLICATION OF CONCEPT (TOY)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Driving Around</strong> Children can play with toy cars, trucks and other vehicles. You can make roads on the floor with duct tape and stop signs out of construction paper.</td>
<td><em>Car Carrier</em>, Melissa and Doug</td>
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<td><strong>Car Wash</strong> Fill two cups with water, one soapy, one not. Children can wash toy vehicles with toothbrushes and the water in the soapy cup. They can rinse the toys in the cup of clean water.</td>
<td><strong>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</strong></td>
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<td><em>Beep Beep, Vroom Vroom!</em> by Stuart J. Murphy</td>
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<td><em>We All Go Traveling</em> by Sheena Roberts and Siobhan</td>
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<td><strong>MATH CONCEPTS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Measurement: Big, Bigger, Biggest</strong> Help children sort pictures of vehicles by size. Have a number of pictures of the same vehicle in different sizes for children to sort.</td>
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<td><strong>Graph It</strong> Ask the children which vehicle is their favorite way to travel. Use the data to create a picture graph.</td>
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<td><strong>Patterns</strong> Set up toy cars or other items in patterns. For example red car, red car, blue car, red car, red car, blue car… or yellow car, green car, yellow car, green car …</td>
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