

Race Car

Staff Objectives: Fun and creativity, while promoting and supporting the bond between a father and child are the staff's main objectives of the activity.

It's important that staff allow the father and child bond to happen naturally. The activity is designed to produce the interaction and the bond is strengthened between the father and child as they complete the task and play together, at their own pace, in their own style, and at their own comfort level.

The staff's role is to guide the activity and provide the learning opportunity for the child through child development.

The activity objective is for the child to express and explore his or her creativity, expand their language, and enhance gross and fine motor skills.

During this activity staff will:

- ◆ Welcome fathers and children
- ◆ Give a brief overview of the activity
- ◆ Distribute and individually explain the role each father will play in this activity, directions, suggestions and development
- ◆ Establish and/or enhance a positive relationship between staff and family
- ◆ Encourage positive interaction between each father and child
- ◆ Emphasize the child's individual growth and development with each father

Race Car

Supply List: Participants will need the following materials and supplies to complete the activity. Staff will need to gather and prepare the items from the supply list before the activity.

1. Brass Fasteners

Gather three-fourths of an inch brass plated fasteners (3/4 of an inch sized fasteners work best). You will need five fasteners for each car. These will be used to affix the paper plates onto the car and allow the paper plates to spin like wheels.

2. Cardboard Boxes With Flaps

The boxes will need to be large enough for a child to sit comfortably. It's suggested to use boxes with flaps. The flaps can be used as tail fins, and a place for the steering wheel and gauges to be placed.

3. Full Sheet Mailing Labels

Full Sheet (eight inches by 12 inches) mailing labels work best. Find an existing clip art program your agency has, or search the Internet and find a free clip art site. Use this to gather pictures of tires, and car gauges and print them out on the label sheets. Also create red and yellow circles for the headlights and taillights and print them on the label sheets. Cut the stickers out before the activity and separate them into individual piles.

4. Markers/Crayons

Gather a large number of nontoxic washable markers and crayons for the design of the car.

5. Orange Cones

The cones can be used to create a racetrack. If you can't find cones, make your own by painting empty plastic one-gallon milk jugs with bright, non-toxic paint.

6. Paper Plates

The plates will be used as wheels and steering wheels. Try to find colorful plates for the infants. You will need five plates for each car.

7. Stickers

Find product logo and emblem stickers like those displayed on the side of a professional or hometown race car. Gas stations, tire stores, and car parts stores may also have stickers they can donate.

Race Car

Supply List Continued:

8. Tape

Use industrial strength tape to secure car design, and to cover the part of the brass fastener that pokes through the box when your fathers are attaching the wheels and steering wheels. Gray duct tape or electrical tape works well.

9. Tubes or Popsicle Sticks

Collect paper towel tubes or Popsicle sticks and use them for tail pipes.

Race Car

Directions: Be sure to do this activity together, but allow yourself to actively sit back and let your child lead in the creativity of the activity. You and your child will be making a race car from a box. Together you will be using a box, stickers, markers, crayons, pipes, and wheels.

Remember, the finished car is only a small part of the process of building the car with your child. The important part of the process is the interaction you have with your child as you build the car.

1. Have your child help choose the supplies to build a race car.

This will help build self-confidence.

You will need:

One card board box
Crayons and Markers
Tape

Stickers
Five brass fasteners

Five paper plates
Tube or Popsicle

2. Begin by having your child put the tire sticker onto the paper plate.

Slightly peel the sticker, then give the partially peeled sticker to your child and encourage them to finish peeling the sticker.

3. Push a brass fastener through the center of the wheel.

4. Ask your child where they would like the wheels to be placed on the box and push the brass fastener through the box to affix the wheel.

Guide your child to where the wheels may be placed. If your child would like to place all of the tires on one place that's okay. If they want to place the tires high on the body, it's okay. Give them the opportunity to be creative and place the wheels where they want them to be placed.

5. After the wheels are on the car, help your child affix a paper plate to one of the four flaps on the box by using a brass fastener.

This will represent the steering wheel. Use the tape to cover the portion of the brass fastener that pokes through the box.

6. Show your child where the gauges, lights, and stickers would be on a car.

However, be sure to allow your child to have the creative freedom to place the stickers onto the car.

Race Car

Directions Continued:

- 7. Next, have your child peel and adhere all the stickers onto the car.**

Again, if your child needs help peeling the stickers, start to peel the stickers and give the stickers to him or her to finish peeling and adhering to the car.

- 8. Use the tape to secure the bottom flaps of the car together and to affix the tail pipes onto the box.**

Give the pipes to your child and help them decide where to attach the pipes on the car.

- 9. Help your child climb into the box and then begin to push your child through the cones or around the room.**

Be careful while pushing your child around the room ensuring that you don't push too fast.

Race Car

Suggestions: Use the following as possible suggestions to enhance the learning for your child.

When you have your child choose the supplies, praise him or her by saying, "I can see you picked out an awesome box and stickers. This is going to be the best car ever. Great job."

Together, decide what type of car you want to build. Talk to him or her about the style you would like the car to be.

Encourage your child to pick out the material, such as the, stickers, pipes, box, markers, and crayons.

Show your child how to peel the stickers. You may need to help your child by starting to peel the sticker and then let him or her finish.

Ask your child if the car should be fast. Introduce the concept of speed to your child. Compare his or her car to fast and slow movable objects. Use animals, toys, or people he or she knows as examples for comparison.

While you are pulling your child around the room, enhance the fun by imitating car noises, screeching breaks, revving motor, and squealing tires.

Pretend together that you racing other drivers during a race.

Talk to your child and describe the supplies as you're building the car.

Building the car is only a small part of the activity. The biggest part of this activity is when you and your children play with the car at home.

If you watch car races in your home, get the car out and play with your child during the race. Push or pull them around your home. This type of play is a great opportunity for you and your children to bond and laugh together.

Race Car

Development: This activity will encourage your child to use his or her imagination, language, and fine and gross motor skills.

Pretend Play: Pretend play is great. Your child will imitate the activities you display. Take this opportunity to bond and model appropriate behaviors for your child while you play. Your child can pretend to be the driver and if there's another child, he or she can be the passenger, if the box is large enough. They can also change roles as they play.

Imagination Play: Imagination play is a way for children to understand their world. When your child begins to use everyday, ordinary objects to represent other things (plates as wheels, a box for a car, etc.) it shows that your child's thinking is going from concrete to more abstract. This shows a true progression in brain development and creativity and imagination. With encouragement from you, creativity and imagination will be enhanced in your child.

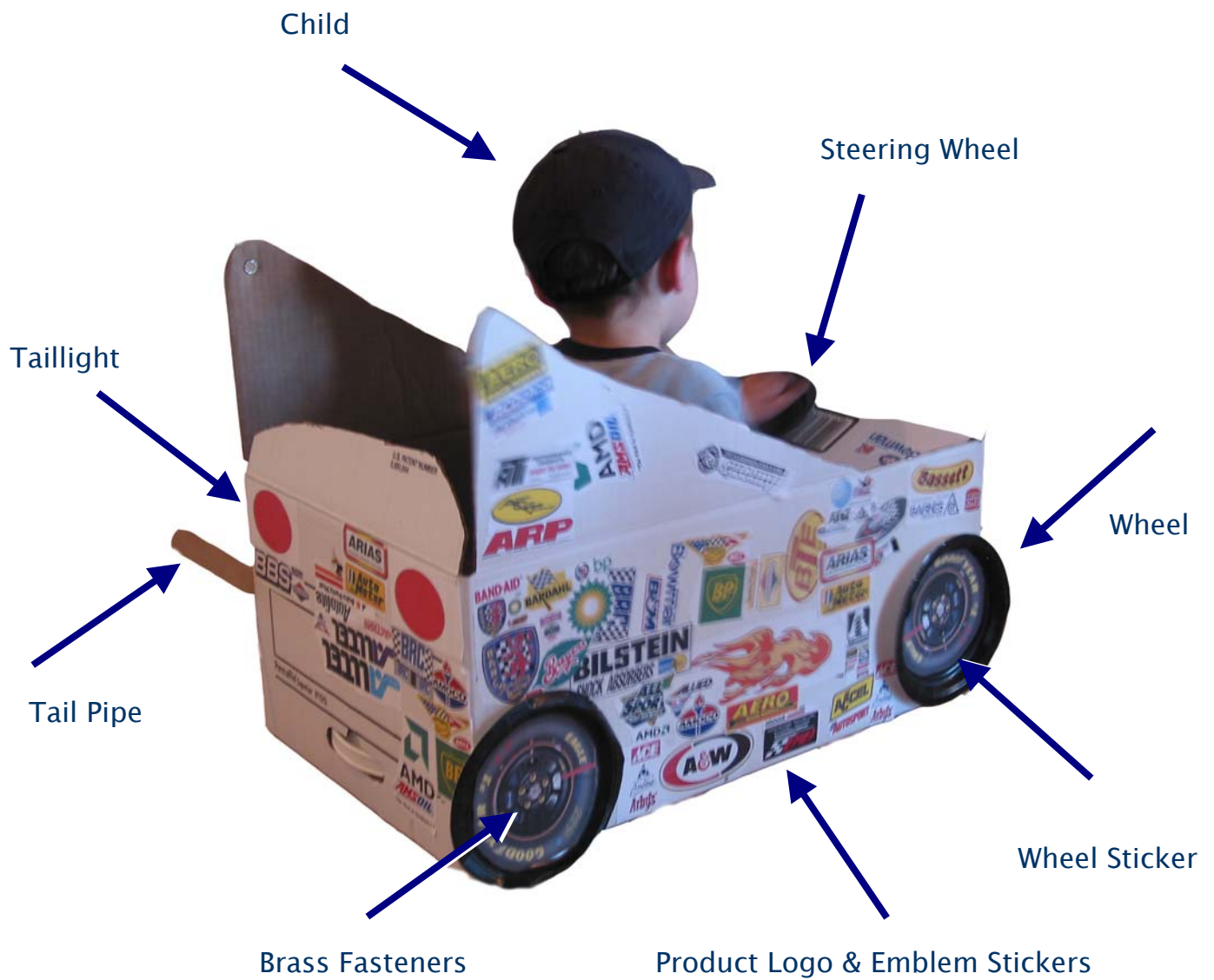
Language: Describe what you're doing. Name different parts of the car, such as, the car, wheels, steering wheel, stickers, tail pipe, or other parts of a car. When the car is complete, use prepositions with your child like, in, out, behind, in front of, and under. Read aloud what the stickers say so your child can begin to see functional print.

Fine Motor: Fine motor development refers to the control, coordination, and the refined movement of the small muscles of the body. Peeling stickers and then placing them on the box and decorating the box with crayons and markers will help develop more defined fine motor skills.

Gross Motor: Gross motor development refers to the maturation and coordination of the large muscles of the body. This activity provides many opportunities to use large muscles. Putting it together, climbing in and out of the car, and turning the steering wheel in complete circles will help to develop gross motor skills.

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Diagram: Here is an example of a Race Car.



Father/Child Activity Night

August 21, 2003

6-8:00 P.M.

1920 Plaza Blvd.

Rapid City, SD

Are you a father or father figure of an
Head Start child?

If so, bring your enrolled child to this activity
night and make a child sized

Race Car!



Enjoy all you can eat Italian Food!!!!



Call Bob Burke or John Gordon at
342-4789 if you and your child plan to attend.



To further the involvement of a
significant male role model in
a child's life

Before attending any Head Start function, enrolled children must be current on immunizations.