

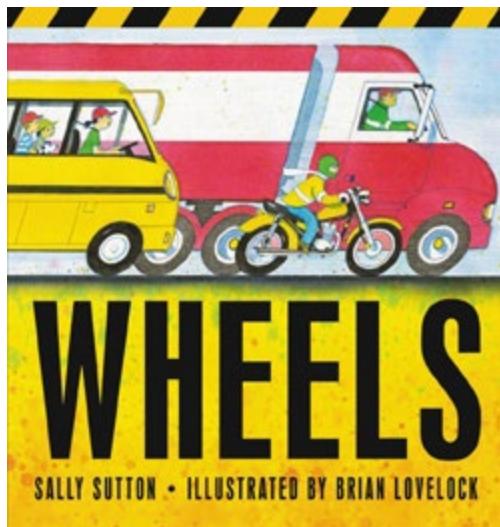
WHEELS

Themes

Excercise • Modes of transportation • Exercise Machines

Exploring the Story

Ask the group if they have seen real versions of all the vehicles featured in *Wheels*. Did they notice the different sounds that each vehicle makes? Can they demonstrate some of the sounds (i.e. motorbike, truck, fire engine)? Do they guess when they hear the sounds of each vehicle what it will be before they can see it? To extend this activity, have the group close their eyes and play audio of each vehicle sound for them to guess what it is.



Point out that all the people participating in the guessing game in the story are members of a family. Discuss with your group who the members of the family might be (mum, dad, brother, sister and dog) and what they are out doing as they come across each vehicle (bike ride, walking the dog). Have the children ever been out doing these things with their own families? Do they play games (like the vehicle guessing game) with their families as well?

There are lots of vehicles in the story being used to perform all sort of important jobs. What are some of the jobs being performed? What are the job titles of the people using the vehicles (firefighter, truck driver, bus driver, garbage collector)? Do any of the children know someone with one of these jobs? As a group, come up with names for each vehicle (i.e. Maxine Motorbike, Stanley School Bus) and imagine what kind of personalities each vehicle might have. Do you think they would be happy about doing their jobs each day?

Recycled Vehicle

Recycle a box to make your own amazing vehicle. Cut a square in the bottom of the box large enough to comfortably fit around the child and attach straps for over the shoulders. Provide a range of items for the children to cut, glue, colour, paint and otherwise decorate their vehicles. Use paper plates for wheels and steering wheel, be sure to attach with paper fasteners for the wheels to be able to turn.

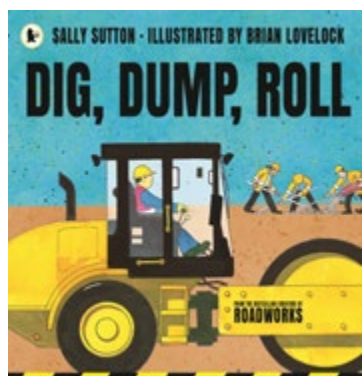
Vehicle Puppet Show

Have the children colour and cut out each vehicle from the attached template (you can laminate and cut around each shape again for longer durability). Using sticky tape, attach each vehicle to a paddle pop stick. Use your puppets to act out the *Wheels* story, play a vehicle sound guessing game, sing along to an altered version of 'Wheels on the Bus' (i.e. the wheels on the taxi go round and round, etc.) and encourage the kids to give each of their vehicles a name.

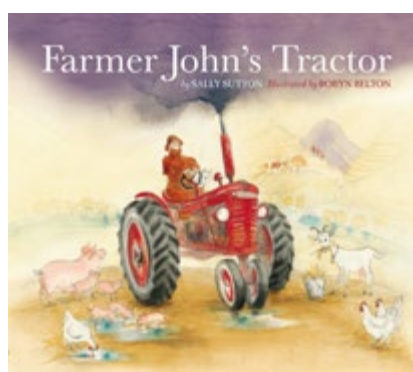
Painting Wheels

Provide a number of small toy vehicles and matchbox cars, a large sheet of paper and a range of paint colours. Have the children dip the wheels of their vehicles in the paint and push the vehicles all around the page. Encourage them to change directions and choose different paint colours. Different vehicles should also give different tire prints. Hang the finished art work or recycle it as wrapping paper or for use in other craft projects.

Related Titles



Dig, Dump, Roll
Sally Sutton &
Brian Lovelock
9781760650964



Farmer John's Tractor
Sally Sutton &
Robyn Belton
9781921150944

Vehicle Puppet Show

