

Dear Family, in class today, we investigated an old, discarded item with moving parts.

**Did you know?**

- Motorized toys and electronics have lots of parts.
- The parts work together to do a job.
- All parts need to be in a certain order for the item to work.

**Ask your child:**

- Describe what you saw inside the item you took apart.
- Explain what you think the parts do.
- Describe what happened when you put the parts back together.

**Vocabulary:**

- wind-up – a mechanical toy. It has a spring. It must be wound.
- screwdriver – a tool. It is for turning a metal device. The metal device fastens things.
- pliers – a tool. It has jaws connected to its handles. Pliers hold things.
- screw – a metal device that fastens things.
- gear – part of a machine. It has teeth. It makes other parts move.
- spring – a curved piece of metal. It can be pushed together or stretched. It keeps its shape.

**Activity:**

Investigate electronic items in your home with your child. Look in your kitchen for a clock, stove, refrigerator, or microwave oven. In the bathroom, you might find a fan, hairdryer, electric toothbrush, or electric razor. Talk about the number of parts that might be inside each of these electronics. Choose one room of your home to count the number of electronic items you can find. Write the number on a piece of paper, and send it to school to share with us.