



Dear Family,

In my class today we experimented with trains on a ramp.

Did You Know?

- The heavier an object is, the further it will travel after going down a ramp. The weight of the train causes it to speed up when going downhill, making the train travel further before it stops. A lighter train builds up less speed on a ramp, so it does not travel as far. The heavier something is, the more speed it builds up and the further it goes.
- Trains are important because they connect people and products with other parts of the country. Trains developed as a method of transportation for heavy things. The size and use of trains has changed over time. Today some trains help people travel throughout the country while other trains help people travel within their communities and cities. Trains are also used to transport goods and freight. Because trains are sturdy and can travel at high speeds, they are a great way to transport large amounts of goods and products.

Ask Your Child:

- What did you learn about trains today?
- How did you make the train go further?
- Did you change the train? How did you change it?
- What kinds of things do trains carry?
- Can you tell me some other kinds of transportation?

Activities To Do With Your Child:

- Explore transportation in your home. Look through your child's toys together. Collect anything that has wheels or is used to take people or things from one place to another. Look for trains, cars, trucks, boats, planes, helicopters, skateboards, bicycles, motorcycles. When you have a good assortment, sit down together and talk about the different toys. You can take turns naming them, sort them into groups, or identify the ones that you have used for transportation. Talk about how the toys are different and how they are the same.

Vocabulary To Use With Your Child: transport, train, distance, transportation, balance scale, ramp