

# Learning about Machines

We will talk about the particular machine types more thoroughly specially, when, where and how we use these simple/complex machines daily and how machines make work easier.

Building simple machines is the perfect STEAM toddler activity.



## Home activities to do with your Toddler

May 11 – May 15

- Simple machine projects.
- Engineering and technology activities (STEAM)
- Machine crafts.

Special activities and STEAM



- As you “read” a book, let your child hold it and turn the pages. Letting your child hold the book and explore it encourages them to take an active part in the reading experience.

Language



- Invite your child to build a simple machines, explore measurement terms such as heavy and light by creating a balance.

Cognitive



- One of the simplest ways to foster independence and help develop critical thinking skills in toddlers is by offering choices you both can live with.

Social-emotional



- Use markers to draw on a white board, making designs with water or chalk on a sidewalk or fence, sketching squiggles in a sandbox with a stick. These are activities that help young brains and hands prepare for writing.

Fine motor



- Let your child learn balance skills. Indoors, use painters tape to make a straight line on the floor. Encourage your child to walk forwards, backwards, and sideways.

Gross motor



# Lunes Monday

Something to consider: Reading books with your child gives you a chance to talk about the emotions of the characters in the stories. As you read, point out character's facial and physical expressions and ask your child to describe how the character feels. Recognizing other's emotions is a powerful way to help your child put names to feelings and learn to respond to others' feelings and make sense of their own strong emotions!

## Morning Meeting

- Let's Sing and move: si las gotas de lluvia  
You will have a lot of fun singing this Spanish rain song.

Perfect for this Spring showers!



## Sensory activity: Objects that float and objects that sink

Fill a large container with lukewarm water. Let your child deposit various light and heavy items in the water to see if they float or sink.



## Project time: Toy cardboard camera

Everything you need to make this cardboard camera is right there in the recycling bin.

In 20 minutes or less you'll have a fun toy camera machine for your little one to be "clickity, clickity" around the house!



Here is what you need:

- A small tissue box size cardboard box
  - Plastic lids from shampoo bottles, wipes or whatever you have in the utility cupboard.
  - Hot glue
  - Strap
- > All you need to do is just glue the plastic lids onto the box for the lens and flash.
- > Then just decorate the camera with a little duck tape and black marker to make the camera all the more real and cool for your little ones.
- > You can use strap, ribbon or one of daddy's groovy old ties to hold!

## Making the most of routines: Clean-up

Cleaning up is an important part of playing and learning about responsibility. A clean-up song can help make tidying up after an activity more fun! Sing the following song:

Limpia, limpia guarda todo en su lugar,  
Limpia, limpia todos deben cooperar.



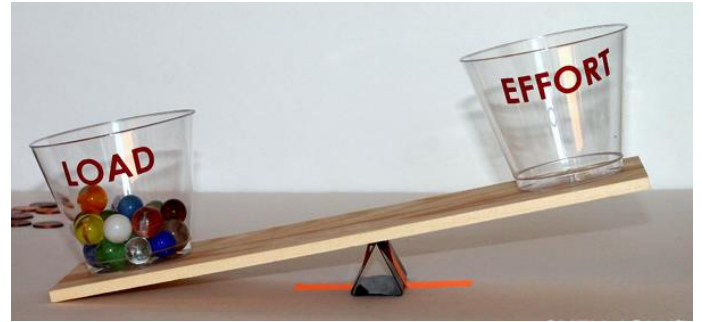
### Morning Meeting

- Let's Sing and Move: Buenos días / Good morning.



### Project time

This simple machine project is great for demonstrating a lever! Also, you can reinforce the measurement concepts demonstrating heavy and light, your child will love it!



### Guided learning: Compares and measures

- Heavy and light socks



To present heavy and light to you child, deposit tiny homemade sock snakes on the floor. Simply fill some socks with very light items such as cotton balls, fabric, or paper to create light snakes and other socks with heavier items such as dried beans or peas to create heavy snakes. Sew the end of each sock. Constant supervision is required. Children will enjoy manipulating these unique snakes.

### Making the Most of Routines:

#### Mealtime

Shake up your mealtime by having a picnic! Remember, picnics don't have to be outdoors. If your outdoor space is limited, put a sheet or blanket down in the living room and invite your family to join you at an indoor picnic! Have your child help you think of picnic-friendly foods, and open windows for a bit of fresh air.





# Miércoles

## Wednesday

Something to consider: Sometimes the best way to learn is with a fun challenge like this simple machines STEM challenge.

### Morning Meeting

- Let's Sing and Move: 7 pasos / The numbers in Spanish 1-7.  
Songs in Spanish for kids are perfect for improving your own language, and learning Hispanic culture right along with your kids.  
Songs make learning fun and memorable!



### Guided learning: Frozen paint



Here is what you need:

- Washable tempera paint
- Ice cube tray
- White butcher paper.
- Popsicle sticks

Directions:

- Squeeze your paint into your ice cube tray.
- Set up the craft sticks in the center of the cubes.
- This will only take a couple hours to set completely.
- Once you have your frozen paint ready to go, roll out some butcher paper for your child and tape it to the floor.

This is a wonderful sensory experience. Crushing the frozen paint and swirling it around the page it's a lot of fun.

### Project time: Racecourse

Make some cardboard tube car ramps for a fun car racing activity for vehicle loving kids! Great fun for exploring inclined plane.

To make these super simple cardboard tube car ramps you need:

- 1 cardboard wrapping paper tube
- black paint
- white chalk pen (or white paint and a thin paintbrush)
- small cars



You may very well have all of these materials on hand already. Let's go!

- Simply cut along the length of the tube, making sure to create two, even halves.
- Then paint the inside of the cut tubes with the black paint and allow them to dry.
- When they're dry, add the road markings. As soon as that is done, they are ready for play!

### Making the most of routines: Outdoors

If the weather is nice, nearly everything that you do indoors can be done outdoors! Consider going outdoors for some of your experiences during the day. You can read a book, play with art materials, take blocks to build, or take real or homemade instruments outdoors. Sometimes a change of scenery inspires new ways to explore!

Something to Consider: Children may ask to hear you read the same book over and over again. That's okay! It's actually a really great sign that they enjoy reading with you! What you read is far less important than how often and how enjoyable the reading experiences are for your family.

## Morning Meeting

- Let's Sing and Move: Los meses del año / The months of the year.

Here is one of our favorite songs about the months of the year.



## Guided learning: String Telephone

Here is what you need:

- popsicle sticks
- tape
- toy lion



Directions:

- Use the scissors to poke a little hole in the bottom of each cup. (adult)
- String a piece of twine between the cups. Use a long piece of string to help the sound travel farther.
- Tie a knot in the end of the string to keep it in the cup and decorate.
- One person can hold the phone up to their ear and the other person can talk into the other cup. Keep the string tight or the sound waves won't travel correctly.

## Gross motor activity: Pillow Walk

Set up a line of couch, throw, or bed pillows on your floor, and have your child walk from one end to the other. It may sound easy but their balance will be challenged!

Your child will develop skills balancing.



Old landline phones were created using the same principle as a string telephone. The sound waves are turned into an electrical signal that can travel much farther than a simple string.

It is always fun experimenting with simple machines!

## Making the most of routines: Bedtime



If books are part of your bedtime routine, tonight swap places with your child! Invite them to read a book with you, using the pictures to guide their story.

# Viernes

## Friday

Something to Consider: Providing children with opportunities to make a choice is an important part of their development! When you can, think of ways to allow children to make choices as you move through the day.

### Morning Meeting

- Let's Sing and Move: Los días de la semana / The days of the week  
Songs in Spanish for kids are perfect for improving your own language, and learning Hispanic culture right along with your kids  
Songs make learning fun and memorable!



### Guided learning: Painting on ice



Here is what you need:

- Cake pan mold
- Water
- Paint
- Brushes
- Tray

Directions (adult assistance):

- > Fill your cake pan molds three quarters full and freeze them overnight.
- > Run some warm water over the bottom of your mold until your shape pops out.
- > Lay your shape in your tray and enjoy painting it. \*  
Be sure to use a tray deep enough to contain the water that went into your mold or if you are doing this outside you could pop it in a water table or bin.

Painting on ice will give your child a different surface experience and the results are beautiful. You can add a bit of twist by creating shapes by using cake pan molds!

### Project time: Wheel and Axle Recycled Cars

This one will be your child's favorite machine! It's a perfect project to teach your child the importance of the machines in our life.



Here is what you need:

- 1 cardboard paper tube
  - Paint (different colors)
  - Plastic bottle caps
  - Stickers for decorations.
- > Start with just your tube. When you try to push it across the floor, you can't. It would be so much easier if it had wheels!
- > Use straws or chopsticks. Plastic bottle caps make great wheels. You can decorate your cars however you want! And don't feel limited to just cardboard rolls. Plastic bottles work great too - let kids design their very own recycled car.

### Making the most of routines:



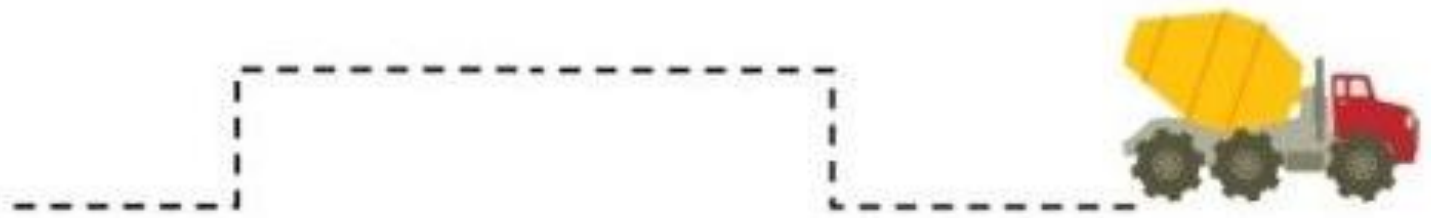
Pair a picture with an object your child is familiar with. For example, if you have a picture of a cat, invite them to hold their toy cat as you show them the picture. Talk to them about the object in the picture and the object in your hand: That's a cat. The cat is furry. You have a toy cat. Acknowledge their attempts to talk about the picture. "I hear you talking about that cat".

# Handwriting practice





# Handwriting practice

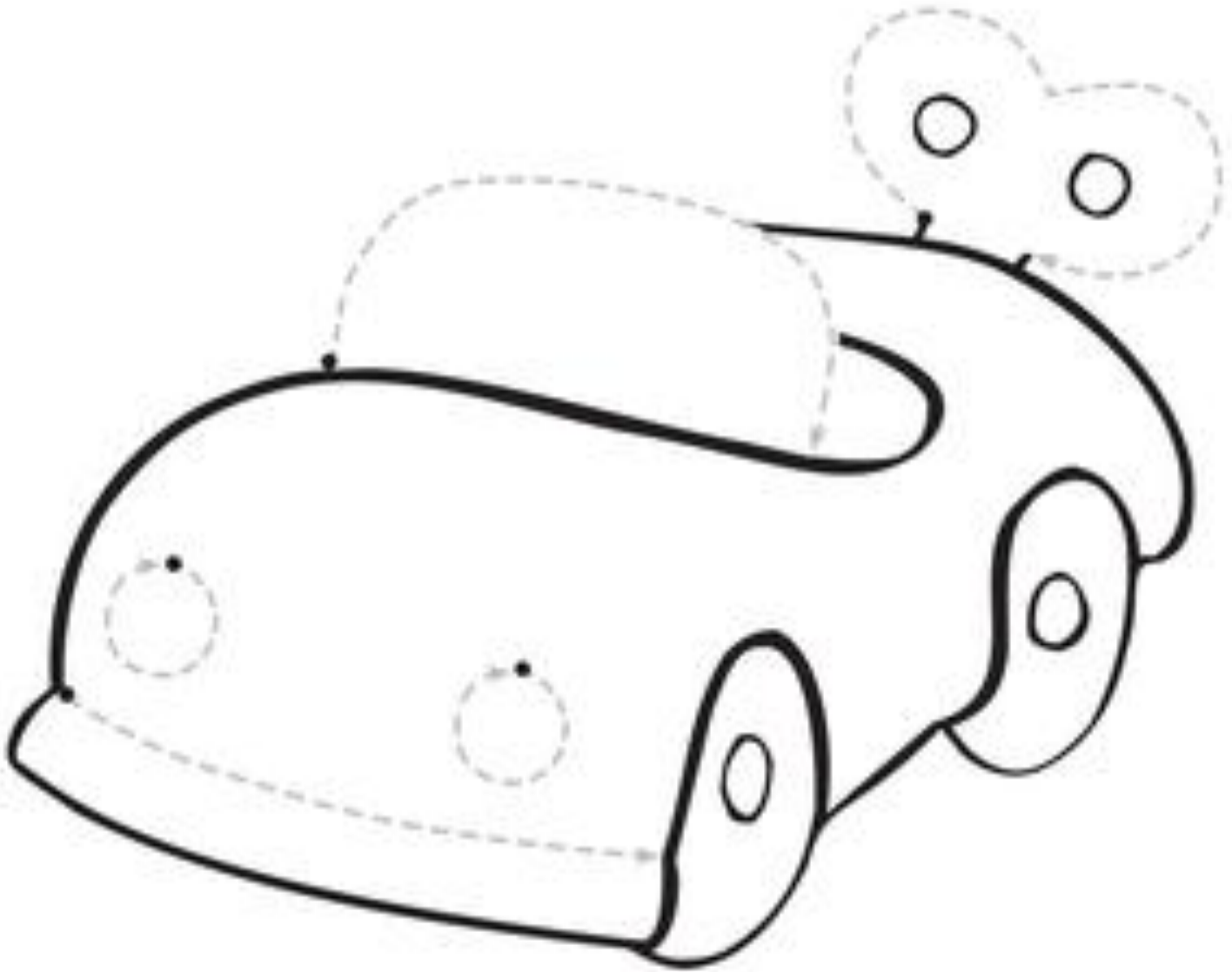




# Handwriting practice

Directions: Trace the lines, color the picture.

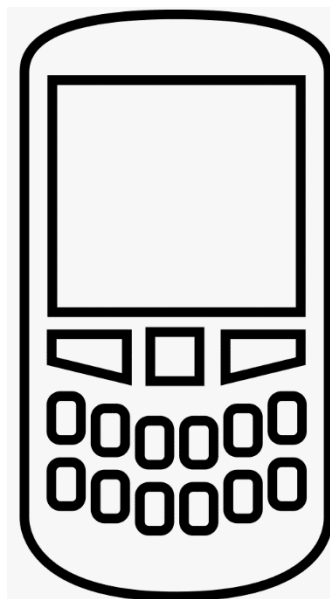
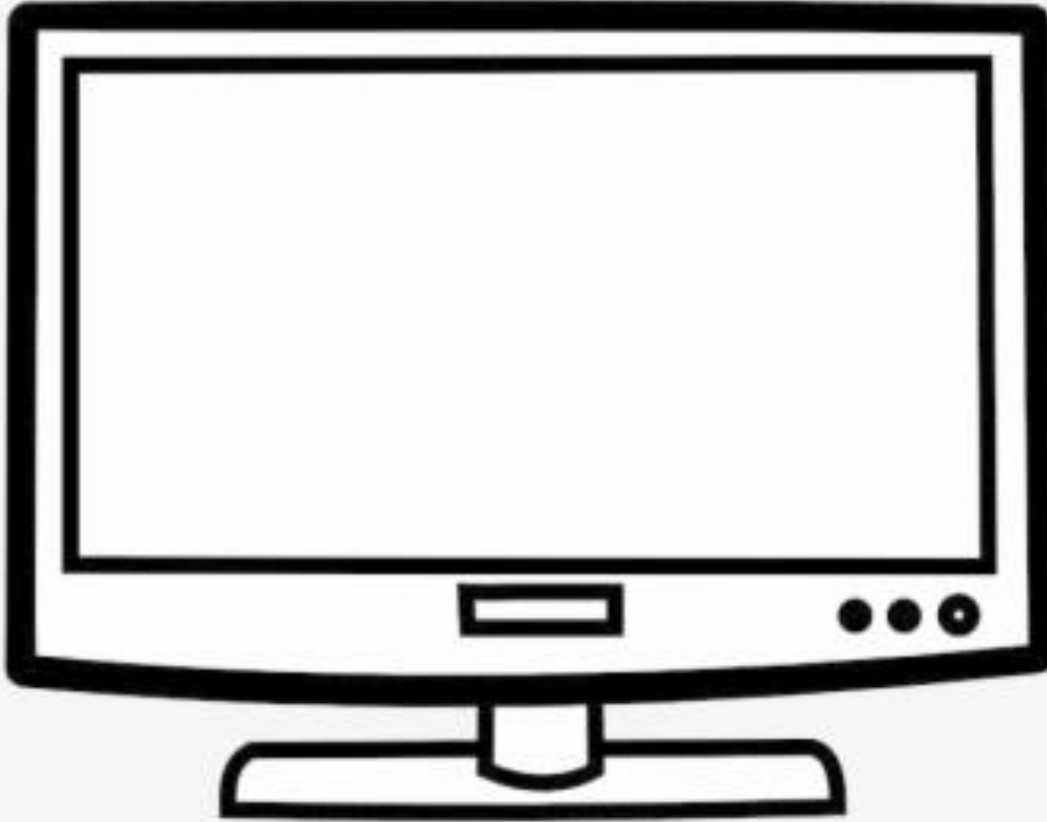
Instrucciones: Traza las líneas y colorea el dibujo.



# Heavy or light? — ¿Pesado o liviano?

Directions: Tick (✓) identify the heavy one, then color.

Instrucciones: Marca (✓) identifica el más pesado, después colorea.



# Tall - short / Alto — bajo

Directions: Color the picture that is taller.

Instrucciones: Colorea la imagen que exprese "alto".

