

Letter to Families

Dear families,

Young children are always on the move and hardly take the time to sit down! When they do, you may sit with your child to enjoy a snack or cuddle together as you read a book. We've noticed that the children interact with a wide variety of seats throughout the day. From sitting in chairs to eat lunch and have snack to sitting on benches on the playground, there are many seats to explore! Our observations of how children use seats has inspired us to introduce a study of seats.

We need your help gathering a collection of seats and other materials for the children to investigate. We'll need many different types of seats. Here's a list of suggested items, but you may also send in items that are not on the list. Please label with your name any items you would like returned to you. We'll take good care of them so we can return them to you at the end of the study.

child-sized rocking chair	computer chair	riding toys	baby doll accessories such as strollers and high chairs
stroller	small stool	bicycle seats	chairs
high chair	floor seats	car seats	books that feature someone who uses a wheelchair, trains, and buses
beanbag chair	floor cushions	booster seats	
lawn chair	carpet squares	boxes	
beach chair	rocking horse	milk crates	

During our study of seats, children will develop gross-motor skills as they climb in and out of seats; mathematics skills as they count the number of people who can sit on different seats and the number of arms and legs on a seat; cognitive skills as they incorporate seats into their pretend play; and language skills as they name the different parts of seats and share their own experiences with seats.

What You Can Do at Home

Notice the welcome activity set up each morning for you to engage in with your child. These activities reflect what we are currently learning and investigating in the classroom. Look for similar materials at home that you can explore with your child by going on a "seat hunt" with your child to identify the different kinds of seats you have.

Draw your child's attention to seats you use frequently, such as sofas, strollers, and the chairs at your dining table. When you are out and about with your child, talk about how some seats (like a car seat or bus seat) help you go places. Point out interesting seats in different places, such as a bench outside your grocery store or a chair at a table in your local library.

Thank you for being a part of our study and our learning!