

The programming options are provided to support a range of implementation based upon library staffing and community needs. The materials and activities in the Play K curriculum are meant to support Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood and promote school readiness.

Playscape 1: All Aboard!

This playscape explores the theme of transportation with preschoolers. The big idea for the theme is: Transportation, in its many forms, is important to our daily lives. Two essential questions guide the programming options: How do we get from place to place? What ways of transportation help us travel on land, water, and in the sky? A variety of key learning areas are reinforced as the children and parents play together and participate in the activities.

Playscape Contents & Key Learning Areas Reinforced from Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood	Programming Option 1: Passive	Programming Options 2 & 3: Circle Time & Storytime	Programming Option 4: Virtual Programming
<p><u>Playscape Materials</u></p> <p>Vehicle Sorting Center</p> <p>Transportation Puzzles - train, boat and airplane puzzles</p> <p>Transportation Folder Games</p> <p><u>Books</u></p> <p><i>Chugga-Chugga Choo-Choo</i> by Kevin Lewis</p> <p><i>Through the Town</i> by Craig Shuttlewood</p> <p><i>Pete the Cat's Train Trip</i> by James Dean</p> <p><u>Book-FLIX selections</u></p> <p>Fiction: <i>I'm Fast!</i> Nonfiction: <i>Trains</i></p> <p>Fiction: <i>I Stink!</i> Nonfiction: <i>Garbage Trucks</i></p>	<p><u>Playscape Set-Up</u></p> <p>Working with your available space, set out and arrange all or some of the materials and books to create an attractive "play corner" for parents and children. Also, display the following parent tips:</p> <p>Tips for Parents & Children</p> <p>1,2,3, Play with Me!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow your child's lead while exploring the different activities and use natural opportunities to extend language and concepts. For example, if your child chooses to start playing with the Vehicle Sorting Center, you might say, "Look at all of these vehicles! Let's see how many ways you can sort them out." 2. Let your child choose one of the books for you to read aloud. As you share the book, connect the story, characters, 	<p><u>Circle Time: Playing Kindergarten!</u></p> <p>Gather children in a circle to simulate a kindergarten experience. Tell children that storytime today will be a chance to "Play Kindergarten!"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Praise children for how nicely they are sitting with their eyes on you, and tell them that their kindergarten teacher will love to see this when they start school! 2. Explain that in kindergarten there will be rules to follow during Circle Time. One rule we will practice today is to raise your hand and wait to be called on when you want to say something. Assure them that you will remind them if they forget, but that you are sure they will try their best! 3. Go over the calendar with the children as they do in kindergarten, using the "My First Calendar" board. Talk about the day of the week, 	<p><u>Virtual – Play K at Home!</u></p> <p>Arrange your space for your virtual setting to resemble a kindergarten classroom. If possible, have a large chalkboard or whiteboard for sharing purposes. Have the book you will share and materials you will use at the ready and displayed as much as possible to look engaging onscreen.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome children and tell them that your program today will be a chance for them to "Play Kindergarten" at home! Tell them that even though you can't see them, you know that they are sitting up nicely with their eyes on you just like they will for their teacher in kindergarten! 2. Show children the calendar board (Note: You may want to use a pocket chart calendar for a virtual program) and explain that you will have them help you

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<p><u>Technology Connection</u></p> <p>Toca Boca Apps</p> <p>tocaboca.com/apps</p> <p>Toca Train and Toca Car</p> <p><u>Master Kit Materials (for Circle Time / Storytime)</u></p> <p>My First Calendar Board</p> <p>Whiteboards and markers</p> <p>Scissors</p> <p><u>Handouts</u></p> <p>Shapes handout for cutting practice</p> <p>Basic cutting practice handouts, if needed</p> <p>Take-Home Sheet for parents and caregivers</p>	<p>or concepts to the materials you have been playing with together. For example, "Oh, look, the train is traveling on land, and that's one of the ways we sorted the vehicles." Your child may also enjoy using the toys in this playscape to make up a story about going places in different vehicles.</p> <p>3. Build scissor skills with the vehicle shapes and other cutting activities we have provided. Help your child and “share the scissors” as needed to keep it fun!</p> <p><u>Optional Technology Extensions</u></p> <p>Load the theme-related TOCA BOCA Apps on a tablet for children and parents to explore together. TOCA BOCA is an award-winning game development studio that makes popular child-friendly applications for tablets and smartphones (both Apple and Android). Go to tocaboca.com/apps and look for Toca Train and Toca Car.</p>	<p>the date, the month, the season and the weather for the day and allow children to take turns placing each on the board, if appropriate for the group.</p> <p>4. Pose this question to the children to introduce what they will be learning about today: How did you get to the library today? Did you walk, or take the bus, or come in a car, or any other way that I haven't named? Introduce the vocabulary word, <i>transportation</i>, and explain that it means a way to get from place to place. Ask the children to say the word with you. So if you walked today, your transportation was your own two feet, and if you came by car, then the car was your transportation.</p> <p>5. Introduce the vocabulary word, <i>vehicle</i>, and explain that this word means something you can "travel in" to get from place to place. Ask children to repeat the word with you. Hold up some</p>	<p>with this just as if they were here. Talk about the day of the week, the date, the month, the season, and the weather for the day as if the children were helping you select each one.</p> <p>3. Pose this question to the children to introduce what they will be learning about today: How do you usually get to the library when you go? Do you walk, or take the bus, or come in a car, or any other way that I haven't named? Introduce the vocabulary word, <i>transportation</i> (<i>have it printed on a whiteboard or on a sentence strip to show them</i>) and explain that it means a way to get from place to place. Ask the children to say the word at home with you. So, if you walked usually walk, your transportation is your own two feet, and if you usually come by car, then the car is your transportation.</p> <p>4. Introduce the vocabulary</p>

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<p>Key Learning Areas – Approaches to Learning Through Play - Constructing, Organizing and Applying Knowledge</p> <p>Language & Literacy – English / Language Arts</p> <p>Mathematical Thinking and Expression - Exploring, Processing and Problem-Solving</p> <p>Social Studies Thinking – Connecting to Communities</p> <p>Scientific Thinking and Technology – Exploring Scientific Inquiry and Discovery</p> <p>Health, Wellness, and Physical Development – Learning About My Body</p> <p>Partnerships for Learning - Families, Early Care and Education Programs, and Communities</p>	<p>Make the parents aware of the Book-Flix selections that support this theme.</p>	<p>of the vehicles from the Vehicle Sorting Center and name them with the children. Tell them your favorite vehicle and why and then ask a few of the children to share theirs.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Choose the sorting card that sorts the vehicles by type of travel (land, water, sky) and model sorting the vehicles with the children's input. Tell children and parents that this activity will be available for everyone to play with after Circle Time. 7. Share one of the stories from the kit, reinforcing early literacy concepts and connecting to the new vocabulary terms, <i>transportation</i> and <i>vehicle</i>. 8. Briefly introduce the Transportation Puzzles & Toy Vehicles. Share the Transportation File Folder Games and preview one or two of the games. Tell children and parents that the games and toys will be available for everyone to play with after Circle Time, also! 	<p>word, vehicle, and explain that this word means something you can "travel in" to get from place to place. Ask children to repeat the word at home with you. Hold up some of the toy vehicles from the Vehicle Sorting Center and name them with the children. (You may want to use larger toy vehicles to show up better onscreen).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Choose the sorting card that sorts the vehicles by type of travel (land, water, sky) and model sorting the vehicles as if the children were there helping you. Mention as an aside to parents that any type of sorting activity at home is great for developing early math and literacy skills, and it’s fun and easy to do with household objects, like sorting laundry or toys to put away, for instance! 6. Introduce the story, <i>Pete the Cat’s Train Trip</i> by asking the children what

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<p><u>Circle Time & Storytime</u></p> <p>All of the above, plus</p> <p>Creative Thinking and Expression – Communicating Through the Arts</p> <p>Social and Emotional Development - Student Interpersonal Skills</p>		<p>9. Close circle time with a song, praise the children for trying their best to remember to raise their hand today, and announce the next Play K.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Storytime Option</u></p> <p>TALK:</p> <p>After reading one of the stories aloud, ask children to “turn and talk” to a partner about their favorite part of the story. Give them a minute to think about it first. Then model with a parent volunteer before the children turn and talk to one another.</p> <p>SING:</p> <p><i>I'm A Little Airplane</i> (Tune, "I'm a Little Teapot")</p> <p>I'm a little airplane, Now watch me fly! Here are my instruments From down low to up high. First I get revved up. Then I can fly, Lifting off the runway Up into the sky!</p>	<p>form of transportation Pete will be traveling on in this story.</p> <p>“Yes, a train! Does a train travel on land, on water, or in the sky? That’s right, it travels on land, on railroad tracks!”</p> <p>Tell the children you want them to be on the lookout for new words about transportation by train as they listen to the story!</p> <p>7. Read the story, pausing to call attention to the phrase, “All aboard” and the words, conductor, caboose, and engineer and talk about their meanings.</p> <p>8. Close with a song, and praise children for learning so much about transportation today. Tell them their kindergarten teacher is going to be so happy about how well they listen and learn! Invite them to tell someone in their house about transportation and vehicles, especially trains!</p>

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		<p>READ:</p> <p>Additional books to expand the playscape theme~</p> <p>Books for Pre-K – Transportation</p> <p>http://www.themeasuredmom.com/giant-list-of-books-for-a-preschool-transportation-theme/</p> <p>WRITE:</p> <p>Have children draw and label a picture of their favorite vehicle. Encourage parents to help with labeling by writing what their child tells them and "sharing the pencil" for the child to write a letter or two, if appropriate. Set out whiteboards and markers for drawing and writing, if parents are supervising.</p>	<p>Note: Have the Take-Home Sheet for this playscape available as a downloadable link after the virtual program. You may want to consider providing a take-home craft that families can pick up at the library, as well.</p>

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		<p>PLAY:</p> <p>Train Finger-play</p> <p>This is a choo-choo train (Bend elbows) Puffing down the track (Move arms forward) Now it’s going forward (Push arms forward) Now it’s going back (Push arms back) Now the bell is ringing (Pretend to ring bell) Now the whistle blows (Hold fist near mouth and pretend to blow) What a lot of noise it makes Everywhere it goes.</p>	