

Set the Scene

Primary Objectives

- 9d. Tells about another time or place
- 14b. Engages in sociodramatic play

Why It's Important

Whether getting on the school bus, train, or other local transportation, children observe everything they see on a trip and may enjoy acting out their experiences. Incorporating other participants into your child's creative representations can be a big help as she learns to carry out complex and varied sequences of activity while working with others.

Materials

Paper; markers or crayons; small and large blocks and toys

What You Do

1. Invite your child to share an experience about a type of transportation she may have used such as a bus, plane, car, train, or boat. Ask questions that prompt her to remember details about her experience. *Where did you go? What did you take with you on the trip?*
2. Encourage your child to work with others to create a scene such a bus, train, or other vehicle. Have her decide what props she will need and gather them together. A few suggestions are coins, a container to hold money, newspapers, backpacks, and signs. Use chairs and other objects to represent seats, steering wheels, and tires, etc.
3. When the scene is finished, act as a passenger on the vehicle. Take direction from your child and others who are participating. Ask questions that encourage conversation between all of the players. *How much does it cost to ride this bus? How long will it take to get to the Golden Gate Bridge?*
4. Incorporate language that will increase your child's ability to think spatially, numerically, and descriptively. *How much longer will it be until we get there? How many miles are we traveling?*
5. Continue the activity for as long as your child is interested.