

## Activities for “Wheels at Work”

### “Wheels on the Bus” Activity

Kids young and old love the song and the actions that go with it! This STEM activity invites kids to decorate an old cereal box so it looks like a bus. Ask them to test a collection of household objects to find the ones that will allow the bus to move. This fun activity boosts fine motor skills and improves hand-eye coordination.

<https://jdaniel4smom.com/2017/08/wheels-bus-activity.html>



### Rolling “Pencil Log” Experiment

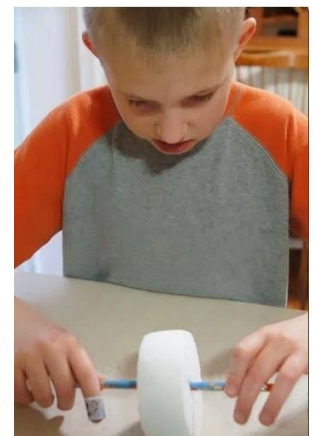
This activity shows children how wheels and axles make it easier to move heavy objects. Place a brick on the table and allow children to try to push it. Explain how the friction from the weight and the brick’s surface make it difficult to move. To demonstrate how wheels and axles reduce friction, put the brick on top of a row of pencils. Invite children to push the brick again.

[https://www.123homeschool4me.com/simple-machines-wheel-and-axle-week-2\\_14/](https://www.123homeschool4me.com/simple-machines-wheel-and-axle-week-2_14/)

### Do It Yourself Wheel and Axle

For this simple machine project, gather several Styrofoam balls. Talk about how a ball is different from a wheel. Cut off the sides of two Styrofoam balls to show that wheels are really the centers of balls. Provide a plastic straw or pencil and push it through the middle of the wheels. Let children push it across the floor or table.

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### Easy Peasy Clothespin Car

Buttons, straws, and clothespins—oh my! This little car is fun to wheel across the floor or roll down a ramp! Find directions at

<https://craftsbyamanda.com/clothespin-car/>.

### Cardboard Car

KID Museum offers educational videos that help hone students’ building skills and confidence. Here’s a more advanced wheel-and-axle project for older students. Check it out!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOzhic2bmfI>

