

Outdoor Learning Experience (Birth to 2 years)

Learning experience: Exploring Gravity and Speed	Shared by: Gayatri Devi Mishra
Environment: The activity should be conducted near a stair railing or other location in an outdoor environment where tube can be secured at an angle.	Estimated time: 15 - 20 minutes
Children’s prior experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have prior experience rolling cars and other objects to explore movement and speed. 	Suitable for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 - 24 months old
What children will experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will explore the force of gravity: items falling down from the top. • Children will observe how the variation of the angle of the tube can change the speed of the descent of the items. • Children will develop language skills to articulate their thoughts and action. 	EYDF Pillars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Developing Child • The Intentional Programme
What you will need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One clear plastic or acrylic tube (60–90 cm in length, 10–13 cm in diameter) • A basket of toy cars and balls • A basket of nature materials: stones, leaves, twigs • Mounting materials (e.g. Velcro, string) 	Benefit - Risk Assessment: <u>Benefit:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This activity allows toddlers to observe the changes in speed by varying the gradient of the tube. • They also develop language skills – ‘fast and slow’. <u>Risk:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small objects in the environment <u>Management:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the children do not put the small items into their mouth.

- Ensure that the tube has no sharp edges that can develop over time.
- Ensure children are on flat surface (not on the stairs).
- Scan the venue to ensure it is free from potential hazards such as sharp objects, pot holes, broken tiles or insects
- Set limits/boundary for children to explore
- Ensure teachers have sight of the children at all times
- Display a signage of the activity to inform public.

How to make it happen:

Preparation:

1. Secure the clear tube to a stair railing or fence at a low level that the children can easily reach. Check to make sure that there is sufficient space for objects to fall out from the tube.
2. Gather small items that can fit into the tube and put them in a basket.

Implementation:

1. Model the actions by placing a car into the tube opening.
2. Name the items and explain what you are doing as you model the actions.
3. Ask each child to go up, one by one, to pick up an item to place into the tube.
4. After all the children have tried to roll the items down, the teacher can then vary the angle of the tube.
5. The process then starts again.
6. Narrate the children's experience by giving step by step description of what is happening:
 - a. "Can you see the car rolling out?"
 - b. "Where is the stone now?"
 - c. "Which moves faster, the car or ball?"
7. Provide support and guidance to cater for individual needs.
8. Praise the toddlers over their attempt to complete the given task.
9. Provide for repeated experience to enable the toddlers to gain mastery of the activity and be independent.