



## STORYBOOK CAR RAMPS

### Materials you need:

- Hardcover books of different sizes.
- Things that roll (balls, cars)
- Cardboard boxes/wood boards – things with a flat surface.

### Setup for play:

- Use the hardcover books like tents to create ramps and other surfaces for rolling.
- Add flat surfaces at the bottom of the ramps like planks of wood, placemats, duplo boards to help continue the rolling.
- Start with cars for them to roll then move onto other items like balls. If they are finding it difficult to pick up the item and roll it down the ramp you can line up a few cars at the edge of the ramp and baby then just needs to knock it down.
- Older toddlers might like to try and create their own ramps by balancing blocks, books and planks against cardboard boxes to create greater heights to roll from.

## What are they learning with this activity?

As the children explore rolling with balls and cars they are learning to:

- Strengthen fine motor skills and coordination
- Follow an object with their eyes (eye tracking)
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and increase their spatial awareness
- Develop new vocabulary and language skills
- Understand cause and effect (pushing the car off the edge makes it roll down)
- Experiment with things that roll
- Express emotions - Fun, anticipation & excitement.
- Grasp small objects
- Understand the concept of gravity

## Extending the play:

- Extend this activity for older babies by providing objects that will roll with objects that won't roll. Baby can test which ones will roll down the ramp and which won't.
- Talk to baby and toddler about what they are doing. This will help them begin to understand the physical and mental processes they are going through as well as helping develop their vocabulary.

