

The  
Early Years Count  
**Literacy**  
Connection



**Vehicles (The  
Kids' Picture  
Show)**

Designed by Chieri  
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DeGregorio

*Infant/Toddler edition*

**Overview of Book**

Opportunities abound for conversations about all kinds of vehicles—buses, trucks, cars, motorcycles and airplanes. Each illustration opens the door to stories and to vocabulary.

Genre: Informational/Concept based

**Vocabulary**

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *Vehicles* to introduce in your classroom:

Types of trucks, airplanes, buses  
Blimp  
Hot air balloon  
Articulated bus  
Safari

Each time you read the book, highlight 2 or 3 words.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or refer to the illustrations to help children understand each word's meaning.

Use the new words throughout the day, reminding children, "That's a word from our story!"

**Connecting with  
HighScope  
Curriculum**

**COR Advantage 1.5**

Science & Technology  
Item DD  
(*Observing and  
classifying*)

Mathematics  
Item W  
(*Data analysis*)

Language, Literacy  
and Communication  
Item Q  
(*Book enjoyment and  
knowledge*)

**Reading Tips**

This board book lends itself to conversations and does not need to be read fully from front to back. Let the children choose what interests them from among the illustrations. Name the illustration the child is focused on and use that as a springboard for vocabulary and more complex language. Draw connections to the children's lives outside school, reminding them of those vehicles that are familiar. Use fun and active language to describe what the vehicles sound like as they move about.

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. During each reading the adult can introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

### **Throughout the Routine**

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Bring out all the various vehicles you have for **Group Time**. Talk about those that look like the book and those that are different. See if the children begin to group them like the categories in the book.

Move like the various vehicles as you  
**Transition.**

Sing songs about different vehicles for **Music and movement times.**

### **Around the Room**

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Add some new types of vehicles to the **Block Area**. Add a steering wheel and see if the children choose to 'drive' whatever type of vehicle they imagine.

Place photos of vehicles from around the world throughout the classroom.

Consider adding various wheels or other round objects to the **Art Area**.

### **Active Engagement**

Reading with infants and toddlers is all about relationship, connection, and words.

There is no hurry with this book, so take your time and follow the children's lead. They may want to linger on their favorite vehicles.

As children are ready, use some open-ended questions to further the back and forths:

Where is that car going?

Who is riding on that bus?

What kind of noise does that big truck make?

Where would you fly on an airplane?

*For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact **The Family Connection:***

website—  
[www.famconn.org](http://www.famconn.org)

Facebook—  
[@famconnsjc](https://www.facebook.com/famconnsjc)

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574-237-9740

### **@ Home**

Since many children in our county will have this book at home, use it to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *Vehicles (The Kids' Picture Show)* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

The '8-bit' illustrations in this small board book may look familiar to you if you've played arcade games! Have fun with the concept and use the illustrations to begin conversations about the many types of vehicles pictured. There will be some that are familiar and others that are brand new. This is a book that a child may well want to look at over and over as the stories of the vehicles come alive.