Explore Ramps with Your Child

Out and About

Look for ramps. As you and your child walk around the neighborhood, see how many ramps you can find. Look for curb cuts in the sidewalk and entrance ramps to public buildings. Let your child try going up and down them. Talk about how ramps can make it easier for people in wheelchairs or with strollers to get around.

On the playground, let your child place objects on a slide (a toy animal, a leaf, a stick, a mitten, a ball, etc.) Talk about what happens. I wonder why it moved like that. What do you think made this one move so fast? After experimenting a little, ask your child to predict what an object will do before placing it on the slide.

In the House

Let it roll. Build a ramp with your child by propping up one end of a large picture book or a piece of cardboard. Together, collect things that you think will roll down the ramp—for example, a crayon, a toy car, a ball, a toilet paper roll. Encourage your child to experiment: What could we do to the ramp to make the objects roll faster? How about more slowly?

Tip and roll. Put a piece of paper in a shallow box or a disposable cake or pie pan. Dip a marble in paint, then place it in the box. Let your child tip the box back and forth, noticing which way the marble rolls and the paint tracks it leaves behind.

Miren Peep and the Big Wide World en las emisoras de la televisión pública.
Acudan a nuestra sede en Internet peepandthebigwideworld.org/espanol, para ver episodios de Peep en español. Descubran ideas sencillas y divertidas que la familia puede usar para explorar las ciencias en el mundo que nos rodea.
Learn More about Ramps

Read and Find Out!

Visit your library and look for these books. Ask your librarian for additional recommendations.

**Mama Zooms** by Jane Cowen-Fletcher
*Scholastic, 1993*

“Mama’s got a zooming machine and she zooms me everywhere.”
A little boy spends busy days zooming up hills, down ramps, and around town with his mom, on her wheelchair.

**Roll, Slope, and Slide: A Book about Ramps** by Michael Dahl
*Picture Window Books, 2006*

From skateboard parks, to highway ramps, to ramps on moving vans, this book takes a look at the many ways we use ramps everyday.

**Rolling** by Patricia Whitehouse
*Heinemann, 2003*

Explore things that roll and things that don’t. This book invites your child to try a number of simple experiments with everyday objects.

Click and Explore!

**Marble Drop:** An online game  pbs.org/parents/creativity
Click **Creativity Challenge**, then choose **Marble Drop**.

Connect tubes to make a pathway that will transport a marble down and across the screen to the bowl on the bottom right.

**Quack’s Apples:** An online game  peepandthebigwideworld.org
Click on **Games**, and then click on the picture in the top row of Quack with the apples by his feet.

Click on the sticks on the ground to help Quack roll the apples into the water.