6 by 6 Interactive Spaces: Tip Tip Dig Dig

Guidelines:

There may be more than <u>1</u> activity or sign under each skill area. Signs should brief, but explain <u>what</u> to do and <u>why</u> it's important.

Skill area - Talk, Talk, Talk

- 1. Activity –Voting: bar graph on the wall labeled with pictures of each machine from the book, children or adults write children's names on a waxy-backed die cut and paste to the appropriate column on the wall
- Sign(s): (with toucan graphic)
- Which machine do you like best? Adults or children write children's names on a cutout and children place on the wall.

Build children's vocabulary by talking about why a particular machine is your child's favorite. When children see adults writing their names, it motivates children to learn to read and write.

• Supplies:

- o Wall labeled with columns for each machine
- o Laminated photos of each machine anchored to wall
- O Die cut shapes in a variety of colors, waxed on one side
- o Pencils

Skill area – **Look for Letters Everywhere**

- 1. Activity Build a vehicle from shapes. Children will dig through a tub of "rubbish" (ex: beans, rice, sand, shredded paper, any other diggable material) to find foam shapes. Space will be provided for children to mount foam onto construction paper in the shape of a vehicle. Children can either glue down the foam and take their truck with them, or return the pieces of foam to the rubbish tub.
- Sign(s): (with peacock graphic)
- Look at all this mess! What can you find buried here? Dig for shapes, then arrange them in the shape of a vehicle from your own imagination.

Recognizing shapes is the first step in learning to distinguishing among letters. As you dig for shapes, talk with your child about the names of the shapes you find. Do any of them look like letters?

• Supplies:

- Foam cutouts in several sizes: triangles, circles, ovals, rectangles, T-shapes, L-shapes, J-shapes, C-shapes
- o Digging material like rice or sand
- o "Construction Area:" flat surface where kids can arrange their vehicles
- Optional: Glue, Construction Paper (provide if you want kids to be able to take vehicles home)

Skill Area – Notice Print All Around You

1. Activity – Print highway. Tape large letters on the floor to spell a word or words from the book ("PUSH," "PULL," "DIG," etc.). Children drive matchbox or duplo cars along the "letter highway," using the road signs to tell them when to go slow or fast, when to stop,

and when to watch for people crossing the street.

- Sign(s): (with kangaroo graphic)
- There's something funny about this highway. It's in the shape of a word!

 Noticing that print in the environment is meaningful isn't automatic. As you play with the letter highway, read the road signs. Move them around to follow their directions at different parts of the street.

• Supplies:

- o Bright duck tape
- o Matchbox, Duplo, or other toy cars
- o Small road signs using words: Stop, Slow, Fast, Crosswalk, etc.

Skill Area – Tell Stories About Everything

- 1. Activity Simple Sequencing: children put 3 spreads from the story into order. The three spreads are the before picture ("Look at all this mess!...") a picture from the middle showing work being done (such as "So the digger digs a hole...") and the after picture, ("...made an adventure playground!")
- Sign(s): (with turtle graphic)
- Put this shortened version of the story in order.

Knowing that stories have a beginning, middle and end is important for children who are ready to tell—and eventually read—stories.

• Supplies:

- Three spreads cut from the book, mounted on card stock or construction paper and laminated, with magnets affixed to the back.
- o Magnetic surface

Skill Area - Take Time to Rhyme, Sing & Play Word Games

- 1. Activity Have the children select things that rhyme and put them in the back of a toy truck.
- Signs(s): (with goat graphic)

Find two things that rhyme and put them in the truck.

-Rhymes help children learn to hear the smaller sounds of language which help them sound out words when they begin to read.

Supplies: A medium-sized toy truck with an open bed

• Small toys that rhyme: boat-coat, bike-trike, truck-duck, car-star, train-plane, van-can, cat-bat-hat, fish-dish, dog-frog, tree-bee, crow-bowl, cake-snake

Alternative: have card-size photos of items laminated and match by rhyme

Overall skill area – Have Fun With Books

• Signs: (with monkey graphic)

TIP TIP DIG DIG EARLY LITERACY KIT CONTENTS

Bin #1	
Sent	Returned
(2) Duplo bases, 2 tubs duplo blocks (one gets cleaned while one is used)	
Starter materials for making an adventure playground on waxed paper;	
pipe cleaners, cotton balls, craft sticks, foam pieces, etc.	
(2) Dump trucks (Brookside Toy & Science)	
Cling vinyl shapes for building a vehicle (Accucut)	
Magnetic shapes for building a vehicle (Accucut)	
(1) layered puzzles (house) (US Toy)	
Laminated pictures for voting	
Signs *Available upon request look-for-letters sand bags	
Bin #2	
(15) Road builders foam squares (US Toy)	
(10) Wooden road signs (Lakeshore)	
(10) Wooden vehicles (Lakeshore)	
Set of magnetic gears (Lakeshore)	
Multiple index-card pictures for rhyming game	
Construction puzzle (US Toy)	
Colored tape (Hardware Store)	
(2) Tip Tip Dig Dig 'not-for-checkout' books	
Bin #3	
(3) Traffic signs w/9 pole pieces & 3 bases) (Lakeshore)	

What You'll Need to Provide:

Containers

Scissors if you want to use them

Replenish waxed-construction paper die-cut shapes and cut-up materials

Comments/Suggestions – What worked, what didn't? What would you add/delete?

