

Cars and Map

Objective: To teach the concepts across, over, through, corner, between, in front, behind, beside, beginning and finish. You may also compare and contrast the cars to get same and different features.

Materials: Matchbox type cars. Use poster board to make as many maps as you need and a spinner or die. This is a very simple map so is a great beginner game. I think the children like the game because of the cars.

Directions: The children are divided into groups. We find that 8 kids in a group are about the most that can be handled by one adult on one map. One car is handed out to each child. The adult talks about the map and how they will start at the beginning, drive across the train tracks make the corner; go through the tunnel, and over the bridge and between the grass to be at the finish. The game is played by rolling the die or spinning the spinner and moving the cars on the map accordingly. The adult can talk about the position of the cars as they are moved along the map until one child reaches the finish line. The cars are returned to the children. The adult can have the children compare and contrast the cars for color, sizes, and features.

This is an example of the map we used. Remember to make the squares big enough for the cars to rest in the places. You can use a paper towel roll or paper cup for the tunnel. I used cardboard and taped the edges down on each side of a square of cardboard to make it bubble up for the bridge. I cut strips of green paper and taped it to the sides of the road to make the grass.

