



BUGGY WALK

SCIENCE: FORCE & MOTION

Every child is different. Do what works best for encouraging each child's exploration of this suggested activity.

OBJECTIVE OF THIS INVESTIGATION:

Children will notice the effects of pushes and pulls during their buggy walk.

VOCABULARY:

- Push
- Pull
- Move
- Force

MATERIALS:

- Buggy or wagon for outdoor walk

PROGRESSION STEPS (SCIENCE: FORCE & MOTION):

Visit [STEMIE Learning Trajectories](#) for details

- Force Noticer

THIS INVESTIGATION:

1. Before you head out on your buggy/wagon walk, present the problem to the children:
 - **"I need your help! I forgot how to move our buggy/wagon. Can someone help me remember how to get everyone moving?"**If children need support, try these prompts to support their thinking:
 - **"If I walk this way (walk in parallel to the buggy), will the stroller move? Hmmm, no? What do you think I need to do to move the buggy/wagon?"**
2. If children don't tell you (verbally or non-verbally) to push the buggy/wagon, try these prompts to help children figure out what you need to do. Try to support children to come up with the answer on their own...
 - **"I wonder what would happen if...."**
 - **"Do you think I need to use a body part to help me?"**
 - **"What happens when I use my hands? It's still not moving. What should I do with my hands?"**Model any actions or ideas the children have.

ADAPTATIONS:

See [A Guide to Adaptations](#) for general ideas and strategies

Instruction:

- Provide visual cues of push and pull to provide opportunities for children to communicate during the experience
- Note: Consult with your EI providers if your child needs an adapted stroller or wagon to meet their sensory or physical needs.





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THIS INVESTIGATION (CONTINUED):

3. Encourage children to think of novel ways to move the stroller. Remember to give children wait time after asking a question.
 - **"Is there another way I could move the stroller?"**
4. Model the difference between pushing and pulling the buggy/wagon and label as push and pull.

HOW TO CONTINUE THIS INVESTIGATION:

- If children understand that you can use force from pushing the buggy/wagon to move it, challenge them to think about how to exert more or less force (**Force Recognizer**):
 - **"Hmmm, I wonder how I can push the buggy/wagon very far? What do you think I should do? Can you help me?"**
 - **"Wow! That was a big push. The buggy/wagon went really far when we gave it a big push. How could we move it and not go very far? What do you think I should do?"**
 - **"That was a small push. The buggy/wagon did not go as far as when we gave it a big push!"**

SUPPORT MATERIALS: Use the blank ones to make your own!

