



Grade 4 Building Project



Dear Parent/Guardian,

As part of the science unit “Building Devices and Vehicles That Move”, students are expected to design and construct a device or vehicle that moves or has moving parts.

Building upon what the students are learning in the current unit “Wheels and Levers”, the students will be asked to construct a device or vehicle **with materials brought from home**. The students will only be given one afternoon of time to work on this at school. (The students will be informed in advance when this afternoon will be) The rest of the project and completion of the log sheet needs to happen at home. The project will be due towards the end of March. (Approximately a week before Spring Break) The device or vehicle must move or have a moving part(s) when a simple force is applied such as air, gravity, etc. (being pushed or pulled is not allowed). Using what they have learned in the classroom, the students will follow the given criteria in order to design (log sheet), construct and evaluate a device or vehicle.

The students will present and demonstrate their vehicle/device in class as well as hand in the **required** log sheet.

Please find attached a list of criteria for the project (log sheet). We have also included some examples of wheel/axle, vehicle/device designs and material possibilities. **These are suggestions only**. Creativity is encouraged, and students are to design and create a vehicle/device which they will build from parts they have created, rather than using those from Lego® or another toy. Please remember that you can tie in other units such as “Waste and Our World” by thinking about re-using or recycling items that could fit in with this project.

In order to be able to fairly evaluate your child’s learning this project must be theirs alone. Past experience showed us that projects completed with significant adult assistance don’t achieve as well on his/her final assessment. You are encouraged to offer support gathering materials with your child and brainstorm ideas with them. Your child will also need to demonstrate that they are motivated to do the work (creating the design, gathering the materials, creating parts, etc.) making sure that they have what they need, so that the project can be completed by the due date.

Approximate time allotment for the project – March

This is an individual project – No partners or group work

Start gathering possible materials now – place them in a container or a bag.

Class presentations the last week before Spring Break.

As always, all information will be reviewed with students before the project begins.

Enjoy the challenge!

Mrs. Newby

Mr. Schellenberg

