During this thematic unit, How Things Work, we have had lots of opportunities for learning by exploring wheels and other simple machines that help us move ourselves and other things from here to there. Vehicles help us to get from here to there with greater ease. Boats and construction vehicles were fun to explore in the water table and the sand table. And, we especially enjoyed painting by dragging toy cars through paint and then rolling the wheels over paper to create original vehicle art work. Did you know that when gears are placed together, they all spin at once!

Using rope and wheels, we lifted heavy objects with ease as we practiced using pulleys. We experimented with other tools, like sand mills and hand drills. The wheels made the work easier! We sang, “The Wheels on the Bus” and then danced to, “Driving in My Car” as we imagined turning our cars’ steering wheel.

Some fun books were: *What Do Wheels Do All Day* by April Prince, *Let’s Go for a Drive* by Mo Willems, and *Poem-mobiles: Crazy Car Poems* by J. Patrick Lewis.
Jacob, Maisie, and Kurtis are testing the speed of balls moving down ramps as they experiment with the slope.

During our circle time in the Red and Blue Room, we enjoyed making discoveries about how things work. We created tin foil boats and tested their bouyancy. In another experiment, we found that the inner fruit of an orange sunk to the bottom of a container of water, while the peels of the orange remained afloat!

Ramps and the marble run were available for testing speed, slope and easier work efforts. We also painted some cardboard buses to display the wonder of wheels on our bulletin board.

Nevin spins the gears and watches how they connect. Andrew observes how wheels make drilling by hand possible. Kiley practices pouring water from a pitcher into a cup and back again.
During circle time, Mrs. Armbruster plays a memory game with various kinds of vehicles.

Ada has already brushed glue on her car cut out. Now she can adhere a collage of color.

Melodie explores the outdoors. How do trees grow and create such a fun environment for climbing?!

Medha is looking at the caterpillars as the class talks about the transformation they will make!

Wally takes a closer look at the buggies.

Madelyn enjoys the familiarity of building!

Ezra turns the wheel with his hand to make the drill work.
Lexi leading us in a
Masaki gets from here to there with the help of wheels.

Will is taking a message in “Red’s Auto Repair”.

Ms. O’Neill         Mrs. Loomis        Mrs. Armbruster         Mr. Salinetro

Rolling a golf ball through paint to create art!

What is electricity and how does a circuit work?

Our final theme will be...

Mr. Salinetro shows his friends how shaky instruments work!

We were able to take a closer look at the buggies.

Ms. O’Neill         Mrs. Loomis        Mrs. Armbruster         Mr. Salinetro