

Help Sheet

0 – 25 Specialist Teaching And Support Service

How to support a transporting schema.

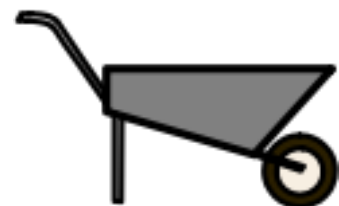


Why?

- The word schema was first introduced by Jean Piaget in 1952. In simple terms, schemas are 'patterns of play' that help children to develop their knowledge and understanding about how things work.
- Schemas are part of child development. For children with SEND schemas are likely to be in line with their developmental stage and may last for a longer period of time.
- Some schemas will fulfil a child's sensory needs as well as being exploratory learning.
- Children find schemas motivating so they can be a useful way to plan 'next steps' for a child with SEND.
- Transporting is a schema where children enjoy moving either themselves, objects or other people from one place to another. When a child is exploring the transporting schema they are learning about where things belong and developing a greater understanding of distance, journeys and mapping the environment around them. In doing this they are learning a range of mathematical and scientific skills such as observation, estimating, testing ideas, predicting and making conclusions.

Learning gained from the transporting schema can be:

- Spatial awareness
- Object permanence
- Gross motor control
- Fine motor control
- Shape and Space
- Positional language
- Directions



Related Vocabulary: Under, over, in, on, around, empty, full, inside, open, closed, move, transport, carry, take, transfer, more, less.

How?

Play behaviours associated with the transporting schema may be:

- Gathering and moving resources from one area of the classroom to another.
- Moving water from the tray and pouring it down the sink.
- Filling baskets and bags full of objects.
- Filling wheeled toys such as trucks and wheelbarrows and moving the contents.
- Pushing the dolls around the room in the buggy/trolley Filling their pockets with resources.
- Pushing others around on ride on toys.
- Transporting buckets of water round on the bike outside.
- Engaging in role play such as delivery drivers and postmen/women/bus driver.
- Pouring sand from the tray onto the floor.
- Drawing a road with chalk and using the bikes to drive from one place to another.
- Sweeping up the leaves or sand and transporting them.



Reference / Evidence base – informed by:

Jean Piaget, Psychologist – Piaget's Theory 1952

Chris Athey, Lecturer in Education – The Froebel Early Education Project 1973-78

Tina Bruce, Honorary Professor in Early Childhood Education – The Froebel Block Play Project 1987

Understanding Schemas in Young Children Again! Again! – Sally Featherstone