



# Sliding Down Ramps

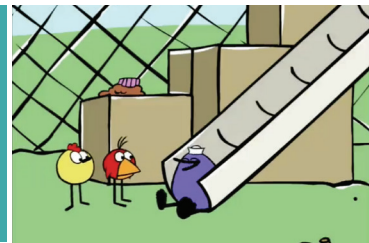
Explore slides and ramps and how things move down them.

## Day 1 (20–30 minutes)

### VIDEO

### The Whatchamacallit

Peep, Chirp, and Quack discover how fun it is to slide.



### What Your Child Will Learn

**Science skills:** Observing and describing the way objects move on ramps

**Science idea:** A ramp has to be slanted. The steeper the ramp, the faster things will slide down it.

**Vocabulary words to practice:** ramp, slide, slanted, steep, flat

### What You Need

☐ Video: *The Whatchamacallit* (9 minutes)

### What to Do

Sit together so you can talk about the video while you watch.

1. Before you watch, SAY:

- Let's watch Peep and his friends go down a **slide**. It's their first time!
- Where have you played on a **slide**?



### Ask Questions and Talk About Ideas

Connect what you are watching to something your child already knows—like sliding.

#### 2. After you watch, ASK:

- Do you remember when Raccoon knocked the **slide** down? Why couldn't Peep **slide** anymore?
- What happened when Raccoon lifted up one end of the **slide**?
- How did Raccoon help Peep and Chirp **slide** even faster?



### Ask Questions and Talk About Ideas

Talk out loud about your ideas so your child can learn from listening to you. Start by saying “I wonder...,” “I think...,” and “What if...?”

## ACTIVITY

# Make a Slide for Peep!

Make a slide and a little Peep to slide down it!



## What Your Child Will Learn

**Science skills:** Observing and describing the way objects move on ramps

**Science idea:** There are ramps everywhere: slides, seesaws, roofs, hills, driveways, and wheelchair ramps.

**Vocabulary words to practice:** ramp, slide, roll, steep, collect

## What You Need

- ☐ scissors
- ☐ tape
- ☐ cardboard tube: an empty paper towel roll or two empty toilet paper rolls (if you do not have a cardboard tube, use a flat piece of a cardboard)
- ☐ a small piece of yellow paper
- ☐ video camera on your phone

## Get Ready

1. Cut the cardboard tube in half lengthwise.
2. Tape the two halves together.

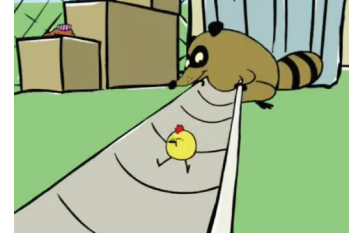
## What to Do

1. SAY: Let's make a slide for Peep like the one in the video! A slide is also called a ramp.  
A ramp has to be slanted for something to go down it.

2. Crumple the paper into a little ball. SAY: *This little ball is Peep!*

3. Give your child the tube and SAY:

- Here's Peep's **slide**! Let's put the **slide flat** on the ground and put Peep on it. What happens to Peep?
- Let's lift up one end of the **slide** the way Raccoon did so it's **slanted**. What happens to Peep?
- How can we make Peep go down even faster?
- What else can we do with Peep and the **slide**?



4. Take two videos with your phone.

- Show Peep going down a **steep** slide and a slide that is not very **steep**.
- Watch the videos together and ASK: *What is different about the way Peep went down the **slide** in the videos?*



### Ask Questions and Talk About Ideas

Make videos and discuss. To learn, children need to reflect (think about) what they did.

## Keep Learning!

Look around the house for other things to **slide** down the **ramp**.



### Explore More!

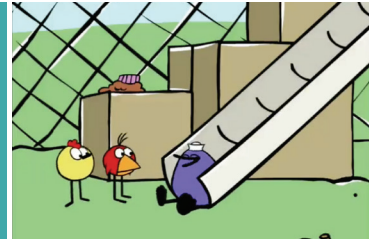
Add new materials to explore in a different way.

# Day 2 (20–30 minutes)

## VIDEO

### The Whatchamacallit

Peep, Chirp, and Quack discover how fun it is to slide.



#### What Your Child Will Learn

**Science skills:** Observing and describing the way objects move on ramps

**Science idea:** A ramp has to be slanted. The steeper the ramp, the faster things will slide down it.

**Vocabulary words to practice:** ramp, slide, slanted, steep, flat

#### What You Need

☐ Video: *The Whatchamacallit* (9 minutes)

#### What to Do

Watch the video again to make new discoveries. Talk about what you noticed this time.



#### Ask Questions and Talk About Ideas

Take turns listening and speaking.

## ACTIVITY

### Ramps in the Neighborhood

Go outside, look for ramps, and play on a playground slide.



#### What Your Child Will Learn

**Science skills:** Observing and describing the way objects move on ramps

**Science idea:** There are ramps everywhere: slides, seesaws, roofs, hills, driveways, and wheelchair ramps.

**Vocabulary words to practice:** ramp, slide, roll, steep, collect

## What You Need

- ☐ playground slide (OR find another type of ramp outdoors: a hill, a slanting driveway, or a ramp in front of a building)
- ☐ a ball
- ☐ small toys
- ☐ sticks, rocks, or leaves (things you collect at the playground)
- ☐ camera on your phone

## What to Do

1. Go to the playground. Bring a ball and small toy to send down the **slide**.
2. **Collect** other things outdoors to **slide**, like sticks, rocks, or leaves.
3. Along the way, look for **ramps** and take pictures of them. You might see **slides**, seesaws, roofs, hills, driveways, or wheelchair **ramps**.
4. Send things down the **slide**, one at a time. ASK:
  - Did it **slide** or **roll** down the **slide**?
  - What do you think is different about **sliding** and **rolling**?
5. When you are home, look at the photos you took of ramps. ASK:
  - What kind of a **ramp** is this?
  - Is it a **steep** ram or not so **steep**?



### Ask Questions and Talk About Ideas

Ask questions to help your child think more about the activity. Start a question by asking “What do you think...?”

## Keep Learning!

The next time you go to the playground, bring different things to roll or slide down the slide.



### Explore More!

Do it again. Children learn new things each time.

## Play, Talk, and Explore More!

During the week, when you’re cooking, running errands, or going to the store, come up with your own ideas for exploring indoor and outdoor **ramps** together. The more you play, talk, and explore together, the more you help your child think, learn, and grow.



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