

# SCHOOLS

## RPNS Students Coming Back Down to Earth



Watching gravity at work at the Westchester Children's Museum

One of the 4-year-old classrooms at Rye Presbyterian Nursery School engaged in an exciting physics study focusing on energy, momentum, and gravity.

The youngsters started by creating ramps out of blocks and experimenting with how different objects traveled from the top to the bottom of the ramp, testing the correlation between height and speed.

Together, the class made a mini-roller coaster using tubing, paper towel rolls, and tape. Applying their problem-solving skills, they figured out how to get a marble to travel down the tubes with enough momentum to go around a hoop.

Topping off their study, the children visited the Westchester Children's Museum, where they explored the Build Your Own Roller Coaster and



RPNS 4-year-old class learned about the physics of roller coasters at Playland.

Wind Tunnel Design Challenge exhibits.

The class's next stop was Playland where, on a day when the amusement park was closed, they

were treated to a guided tour of the five roller coasters by Director Ken Puccia and Operations Manager Chris Battle.

The children came away under-

standing the role physics plays in the operation of roller coasters in addition to how much fun they are.