

Leo Rosen '22 Builds Custom-Fitted Trucks to Support Mobility for Children with Special Needs

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In June, Leo Rosen '22 of Purchase, NY, presented an F-150 fitted tiny truck to a five-year-old student who has a disability that affects his mobility. Working over Zoom with an engineer and an occupational therapist, Leo has built three custom-fitted trucks with the goal of donating them to the Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's United Preschool Center in White Plains for children who experience limited mobility.

"I love to build, and I want to do whatever I can to help others. I love making kids happy," said Leo, as he observed the five-year-old move around more easily in the F-150 truck.

The adjustments that Leo makes to adapt these tiny trucks for students' needs include modifying the steering wheel, chair, and seatbelts. He also creates an operational manual for parents.

This work began in the early days of the pandemic when Leo reached out to United Preschool Center in an effort to stay engaged with building projects while learning remotely at home. At that time, Leo also connected with Connecticut GoBabyGo! Collaborate, a program that provides modified cars to children who experience limited mobility. With these two organizations as partners, Leo turned his family's garage into his truck adaptation space, and the project has since continued to grow.

This fall, Leo heads off to Cornell University, so he has trained students in Mamaroneck to take over the project while he is away at college.

Read more on Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's website here.









Photos by Honora Banks, courtesy of Cerebral Palsy of Westchester.

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