

Technology Zone Paving a Road

Have you ever driven on a dirt road?

It can be bumpy!

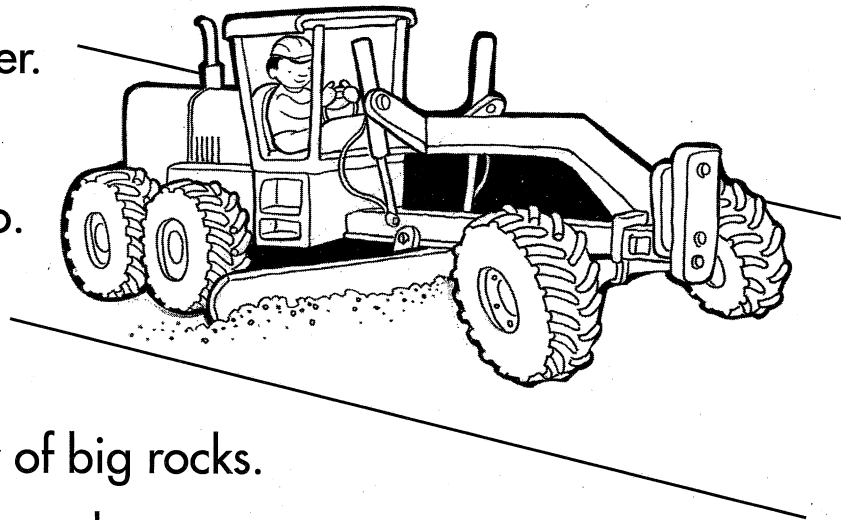
People use machines to pave roads.

Paving roads makes them smooth.

First, they use a road grader.

It smooths out the dirt.

It makes the ground flat too.



Then, a truck pours a layer of big rocks.

Another truck pours smaller rocks.

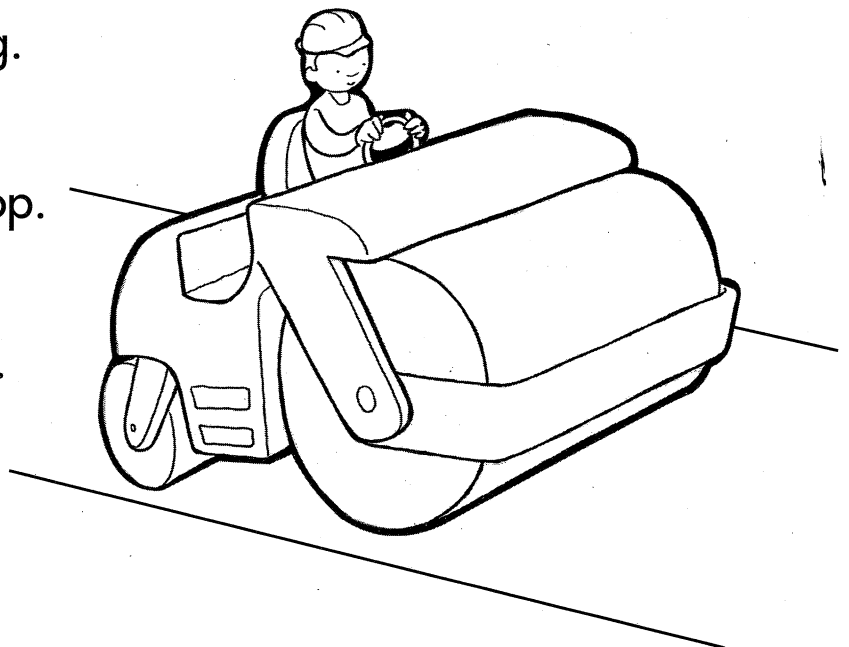
Another machine pounds them down.

This makes the road strong.

Last, they put asphalt on top.

A roller drives over it.

The roller makes it smooth.

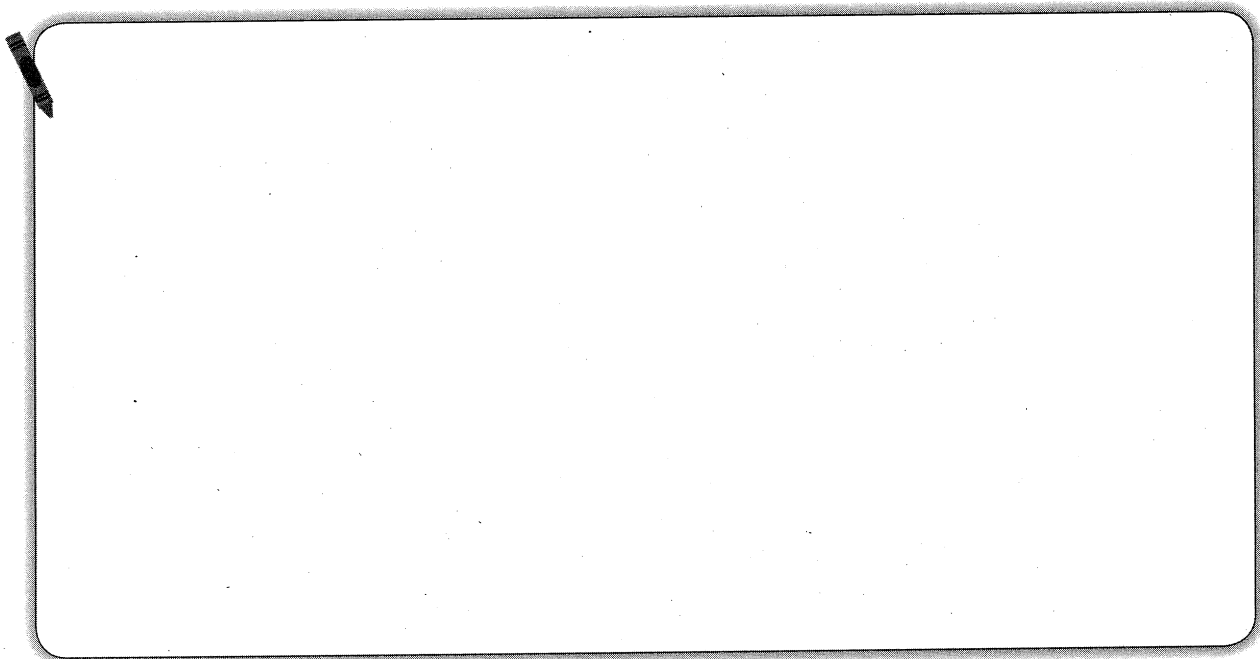


Answer the questions.

1. Do you think rough roads are safe? Explain your answer.

2. What does it mean to say "a road is strong"?

3. How do you think people built roads before they had trucks?
Draw one of your ideas.



Career Spotlight Transportation Engineer

Transportation engineers design roads.

They find out how many people use the road.

They decide how wide the road needs to be.

Then they plan how to build the road.

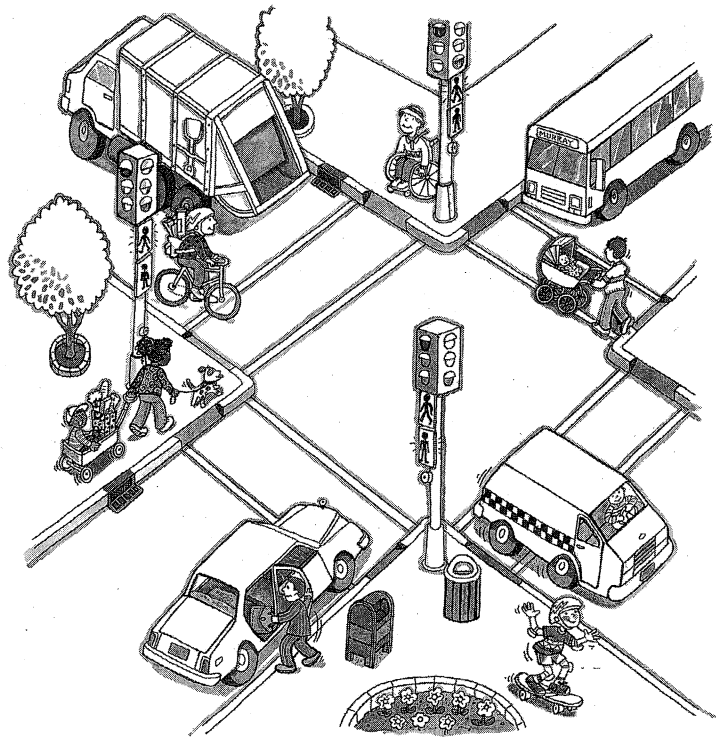
Sometimes they need to build a bridge or tunnel first.

They make a plan and draw pictures.

A road crew builds the road and adds signs and lights.

Stop signs, lights, and crosswalks will keep everyone safe.

The road is ready for cars, bikes, and people!



Answer the questions.

1. Who designs roads?

2. Why do we need traffic lights?

You Are the Engineer

Pretend you are a transportation engineer.

Three roads meet in a town.

Design and draw where the roads meet.

Use the next page for your drawing.

Tell how many people will use it.

Tell how wide it will be.

Add any stop signs or traffic lights.

My Road
