via West County Explorers Club : This photo showed up on Facebook a few days ago, apparently. An Australian dad built his son a scaled-down 70-series Land Cruiser, complete with Lightforce spotlight and bull bar. I wonder if the antenna means it has a radio as well.

It occurred to me that a truck like this could totally go on the trail with an adult convoy since trail speeds average about 10 mph. How amazing would that be for a kid out in the wide open country with their own truck and their family their for backup?

In a related story, this was told to me the other day. A guy went out with his kids in his FJ80. They were in a big, dry river bed, so he put the truck in low range, got out and let his kids drive it around. They were nine and twelve. "They've been driving go-karts for years, so they know how to drive pretty well." Then after bit he saw his kids stop the truck. "What are they doing?" he thought. Two seconds later they were barreling across the wash.

They had shifted the truck back into four-wheel-high and were giving it the boot. "Hey get back here!" he yelled. "I gotta make sure they're not watching me next time when I put it into kid-mode," he told me.

Maybe it's time to build your kids their own rig. :)

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