



TOP TRAVEL TIPS

10 Fun Travel Games - No Toys Required

For more information visit: www.top-travel-tips.com

1. Treasure Hunt

Before you leave for your journey prepare an age appropriate treasure hunt list for your child. On the list should be items that you are likely to see on your way and your child needs to mark off each item they see. Depending on your journey, your list might include items like church, school, bus, telephone box, horse, sheep, cow, dog, statue, lake, playground, gas station, supermarket, police officer, etc.

You can easily create a list like this if you have a word processing application like Microsoft Word. By using the Clip Art function, you can search for items and insert a picture of the item into the sheet, which is useful if the child has not started to read.

2. Who Am I?

One player thinks of something, it can be a person or a place - it can even be an animal or a thing... and asks the other players "Who Am I". The other players can then ask set number of questions, usually 20 questions... so the game doesn't drag out too long.

The questions aim is to find the person identity and could include questions like: Are you a man or woman, are you famous, are you an actor, etc. The person answering can only answer with "yes" or "no", though you might want to allow full answers when playing with the youngest kids.

3. Make Up A Story

Travel games for children that encourage their imagination are always great car travel games but they are usually also great airplane games for kids as well.

First player starts with a sentence, then player 2 adds a sentence and so the story evolves. The outcome can be a truly awesome story... that no one could have thought up on his or her own!

4. I Spy With My Little Eye...

I Spy is a classic travel game for children and probably one of the first fun car game you will teach your child. There is more than one way of playing this game. With younger children you might use colors. You would then start the game by saying "I spy with my little eye, something that is ..." and fill in with a color. The child is then required to guess what it is you are looking at.

With older children, you might use the alphabet and then you say “I spy with my little eye, something that starts with...” and fill in with a letter.

When the child guesses the right object then it is the child’s turn to “spy” something. You continue to take turns until you run out of ideas. If either one of you cannot guess the right object then the person doing the “spying” will get another turn and spy a new object.

5. Sing Along Travel Games For Children

Sing along and you will be there before you know it. Singing together is a great way to pass the time on a long car journey. It is a good idea to keep a songbook in the car at all times, they will give you song ideas and help you with the lyrics.

Young children love songs with repetition but to make it even more fun, try throwing in few lines of your own. Young children love singing silly songs. They also like active songs, so song like “Head and shoulders, knees and toes” and “If you're happy and you know it clap your hands” should be popular.

With older children, you could sing a round, i.e. the first person starts singing, when she has done two lines the next person joins in singing from the beginning of the song too. It continues like that, each person singing the song from the beginning to the end. This is quite challenging so makes great travel games for children.

6. Counting Travel Games For Children

Counting games are easy and fun car travel games for children that can easily be adjusted to fit any age. First, decide on a destination where players will stop counting. Then decide what you are counting.

There must be two players or teams as each is allocated a side of the car, i.e. left or right side. The winner is the team that has counted the highest number when agreed destination has been reached.

You can count number of yellow cars you pass, phone boxes, cows, dogs, bicycles, etc. To make the game more interesting you can agree before hand on distractions. Like if you pass a graveyard on your side of the car you go back to zero... but only if the other team calls out that they have spotted the graveyard. Your goal would be to distract the other team so they will not notice it in time.

You can offer bonus points for some rare sightings (depending on where you are driving), i.e. you might get extra ten bonus points if you spot a black cat or white horse. Adults might want to help keeping the scores to make sure everyone is happy at the end of the game.

7. Going On A Holiday - Memory Travel Games For Children

The first player starts with "I'm going on a holiday and I'm going to bring ..." and names the item she is bringing. Let's say she is bringing her backpack. Then the next person says "I'm going on a holiday and I'm going to bring a backpack and..." and names the item she is bringing but that item must start with the last letter of the previous item, which is k in this case. So this person might want to bring her kitten with her.

It continues like that, the players take turn until someone forgets an object. That person then leaves the game and the game continues until only the winner is left. It can be a good idea to let the adult in the passenger seat act as a referee and keep track of all the items on the list.

You can also simplify this game by taking out the memory element. Then each child will not have to repeat the items on the list, only come up with a new item that starts with the last letter of the previous item.

8. Yes, No, Black And White

This is an excellent game for two players. The first person asks the other person question like "What did you do with the money I gave you yesterday". The other person can answer whatever she likes as long as she doesn't say "yes, no, black or white".

The first person will ask questions until the other person makes a mistake and then they swap places. This is a fun car game as well as excellent airplane game for kids. This exchange could go something like:

I bought myself a hat
What color was your hat?
It was purple with pink flowers
Are the flowers small?
They are really big
Do you like your hat?
My new hat is great
Did you wear your hat yesterday?
Noooo...

9. Improve Your Geography

This is ideal travel game for children starting to learn geography. The first player names a country, like Spain. The next person must name a country which name begins with the last letter of the previously named country, which is N in this case so it could be Nepal or Namibia. So it continues until someone gives up.

You can easily adjust this game to fit various subjects, like animals, films, pop stars, etc.

10. The Silent Travel Game

This is a cheeky one... but after playing all the others travel games for children, you might like this one. See who can stay quiet for the longest period. The last person to make a noise wins and gets a treat. Sit back and enjoy the silence... while it lasts.