



# Going on a Trip

Take advantage of your next trip to practice literacy skills while you explore new places together.



## Travel Tips:

### 1. Plan ahead

- a. Visit a library or bookstore with your child to find new books. You and your child can **consult** the librarian or a **salesperson** for ideas based on your travel plans.
- b. Bring literacy activities to fill the time while traveling.
  - i. Travel games like Mad Libs®, Boggle®, or Scrabble Jr.® can be great literacy-boosting aids.
  - ii. You can also pre-load any mobile devices with new literacy apps or e-books for your special trip.
  - iii. Include the activities in this packet or printables from [pbsparents.org/read](http://pbsparents.org/read).

### 2. While you're on the go:

- a. **On the road**
  - i. Point out signs and words as you travel to help your child engage with his surroundings while he practices literacy skills.
  - ii. Traditional car games and songs are also great literacy-boosting activities. How many different license plates can you find?
- b. **At mealtime:**
  - i. Use the menu as an opportunity to find new words or letters. You can also ask your early reader to read the menu items for your family.
- c. **Before bedtime:**
  - i. At the end of the day you can unwind by having your child recount the "story" of that day. Did anything **unexpected** happen? Did you try anything new? What was his favorite part of the day?

**Note:** terms in **bold italics** are terms you may want to explain to young children.



For more ideas and tips visit

[pbsparents.org/summer](http://pbsparents.org/summer)



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## Travel Journal

Your child can draw or write in a **journal** with your help. Ask him to draw or write about something that happened during the day in the space below (you may want to print multiple copies of this page). Keep the journal to revisit your trip when you get home!



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## Souvenir Envelope

FOLD



Encourage your child to keep **souvenirs** of your trip. You can fold this page on the dotted lines and staple or tape the sides together to use this page as an envelope. When you get home you can talk about the things she **collected** or work with her to create a **scrapbook**.

Staple or Tape

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FOLD



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## More Ideas

### Alphabet Pictures

1. If you have a digital camera, you can easily assemble an "A-Z" story of your trip. Just encourage your child to point out letters from A to Z in signs or on menus, and snap pictures of the letters as he finds them. Later, work with him to **assemble** your images in alphabetical order and see if you can remember where you found each letter.

### Family Interview

2. If you're visiting a family member or friend you can encourage your child to interview your host.
  - a. **Preparing** for the interview: Talk with your child about some questions she might ask. Some ideas are:
    - i. What was your favorite book when you were my age?
    - ii. Where did you live when you were my age?
    - iii. What were your favorite games or foods?
  - b. The interview: Schedule some time for your child to interview a family member or friend.
    - i. If your child is young, you may want to send him along with questions so that the interviewee can help him during the interview.
  - c. **Reporting:**
    - i. If your child is writing, you can have him write down the **transcript**, the questions and answers from the interview, and create a **biography** of his interview subject.
    - ii. If your child is not yet writing, you can have him verbally **report** on the interview to you or another family member.
      1. Was he surprised by anything he learned?
      2. What was the most interesting thing he learned during their interview?

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