



# SUMMER TRAVEL 2017



*faith@home*



# SUMMER TRAVEL TIPS



## PREPARATION

- To help children get the most from traveling, include them in the preparations for the trip. Get a road map for each school-age child, and check the library for books about the places you will see.
- Pack a special activity bag for each child. Ideas to include in the bag: games, notepad, their favorite snacks, a fun craft or activity, books.

## ACTIVITIES

You can also get creative and work together to make up your own games.

- **CAR GAMES:** Car bingo, Travel Scavenger Hunts, and interactive games for children to know when you're close to your destination, are a few of the fun ideas on [momsminivan.com/printables.html](http://momsminivan.com/printables.html) you can find and print for free. What a fun way to travel!!!
- **TALK TIME:** Travel time is a great opportunity to connect and communicate with each other. Have a list of questions to talk through. Take turns asking questions, let your kids ask you questions as well. Questions can be as simple and silly as, "If you were any animal what would you be and why?" to deeper questions like, "What is one thing you want us to pray for you this next year?"
- **DRIVE-TIME AUDIO:** Every family should own audio albums of Adventures in Odyssey. Hours in the car fly by when enjoying these wonderful stories that reinforce Christian faith and values. Learn more at [whitsend.org](http://whitsend.org)

## FAMILY WORD SEARCH

While riding in the car or waiting for a meal in a restaurant, draw a five-by-five tic-tac-toe grid (4 lines down, 4 lines across). Ask a parent to randomly call out letters (excluding x, q and z). As letters are called, randomly fill in your grid. If a vowel is called, fill in two spaces with that letter. When your grid is full, see how many words you can find, searching forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.



## GET THE PICTURE

Before your trip, have each person in the family create a list for another family member with items they may come across while traveling. Use a camera to capture photos of each item on your list: the cabin you stay at, a historic statue, the Texas state sign, etc. The goal is to see who can take a picture of all the items on their list first.

## POSTCARD PUZZLES

Make puzzles with postcards from your destination. Cut cards into interlocking pieces with wavy, zigzag cuts, etc. Time yourself putting them back together.



## ON A ROLL

For this travel game, you'll need two dice. Players take turns rolling, adding the two numbers together after each roll. The first player to reach 100 wins. If a player rolls doubles, he loses his points and must start over.

## ME MAIL

Before you go, purchase plenty of postcard stamps. On each day of your trip, buy a postcard, write down what happened that day and mail it to yourself. By the time you get home, you'll have a trip full of memories to read!



# SCAVENGER HUNT

SEE  
IF YOU  
CAN FIND  
EVERYTHING  
ON THE  
LIST!

## SUBURBS

- PERSON WALKING DOG
- FLOWER GARDEN
- PICKUP TRUCK
- WALMART
- SCHOOL
- PLAYGROUND
- CHURCH
- STATUE
- FIRE STATION
- FOOTBALL FIELD
- PERSON ON BIKE

## RURAL

- SILOS
- POND OR LAKE
- DIRT ROAD
- TRACTOR
- HORSES
- GAS STATION
- COWS
- BARN
- DEER
- BARB-WIRED FENCE
- WINDMILL

## CITY

### FLASHING RED LIGHT

- BUS
- DOG
- FOOD STORE
- RAILROAD TRACKS
- CHILD ON BILLBOARD
- LICENSE PLATE WITH A Q
- COP
- PERSON ON CELLPHONE
- PERSON WITH TALL BOOTS
- SIGN IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE

# DRIVE-TIME

YOU  
ARE  
MADE  
UNIQUE

# DEVOTIONS



## YOU ARE MADE UNIQUE

**PLAY:** Observe the color and type of your vehicle (blue SUV, red van, yellow car.) When you see similar vehicles on the road, call out "eureka!" ("I found it!")

**TALK:** Discuss the difference (age, wear, dents) among vehicles. Each has characteristics that make it unique. Like vehicles, no two people are exactly alike. Psalm 139:14 says we are "fearfully and wonderfully made." Discuss some of the differences between people, emphasizing God's unique design. Identify two unique personality traits or abilities for each family member.

**PRAY:** Thank God for the ways He has made your family members unique.

## YOU CAN BLESS OTHERS

**PLAY:** Using the letters of each person's name, give compliments that begin with each letter. For example, Sam could be s-sweet, a-awesome, m-marvelous.

**TALK:** Compliments are one way to bless others. Ephesians 4:29 says our words should build up others. When we are mad at someone, we sometimes say unkind things, but the Bible teaches us to bless people—even those who hurt us (Luke 6:28). Just as we thought of kind words to describe members of our family, we can find ways to build others up and bless them. Who would you like to bless through kind words?

**PRAY:** Ask God to help you use your words to bless others by encouraging them.



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