

FIELD TRIP PLANNING TIPS

As you chase after wonder and delight this school year, keep these field trip tips in mind for a safe and enjoyable adventure!

TIP #1 CHOOSE A LOCATION THAT WILL FAN THE FLAMES OF LEARNING

Field trips are a great way to fuel a developing passion. Do you have an astronomy lover? Head to the planetarium. Is your child an animal lover? Plan an outing to the zoo or bird sanctuary. Field trips are perfect for interest-led learning.

TIP #2 PREP YOUR KIDS

Use library books, documentaries or family discussion times to give your children some context for the field trip experience. The more information they have going in, the better they'll be able to engage during the field trip.

TIP #3 KEEP YOUR EXPECTATIONS REALISTIC AND COMMUNICATE THEM CLEARLY

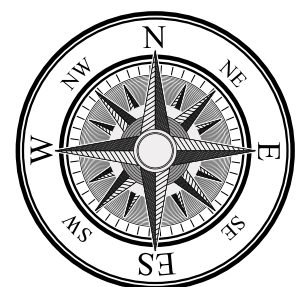
In an unfamiliar environment it's important that your kids know what you expect of them. Get clear on what behavior is appropriate (and realistic) for your setting, and make sure you've communicated what is expected to your kids.

TIP #4 PACK FOR SUCCESS

Make sure you have plenty of water, snacks, and appropriate clothing. It never hurts to throw a change of clothes and an extra towel in the car just in case. Have kids carry their own adventure packs if they're old enough.

TIP #5 LEAVE BEFORE YOU THINK IT'S TIME

Many field trip woes arise when you try to stay longer than your children's energy or attention spans can tolerate. A short outing that ends with everyone wanting more is better than a trip that ends with crying and whining because everyone is overtaxed.



HAPPY ADVENTURING!