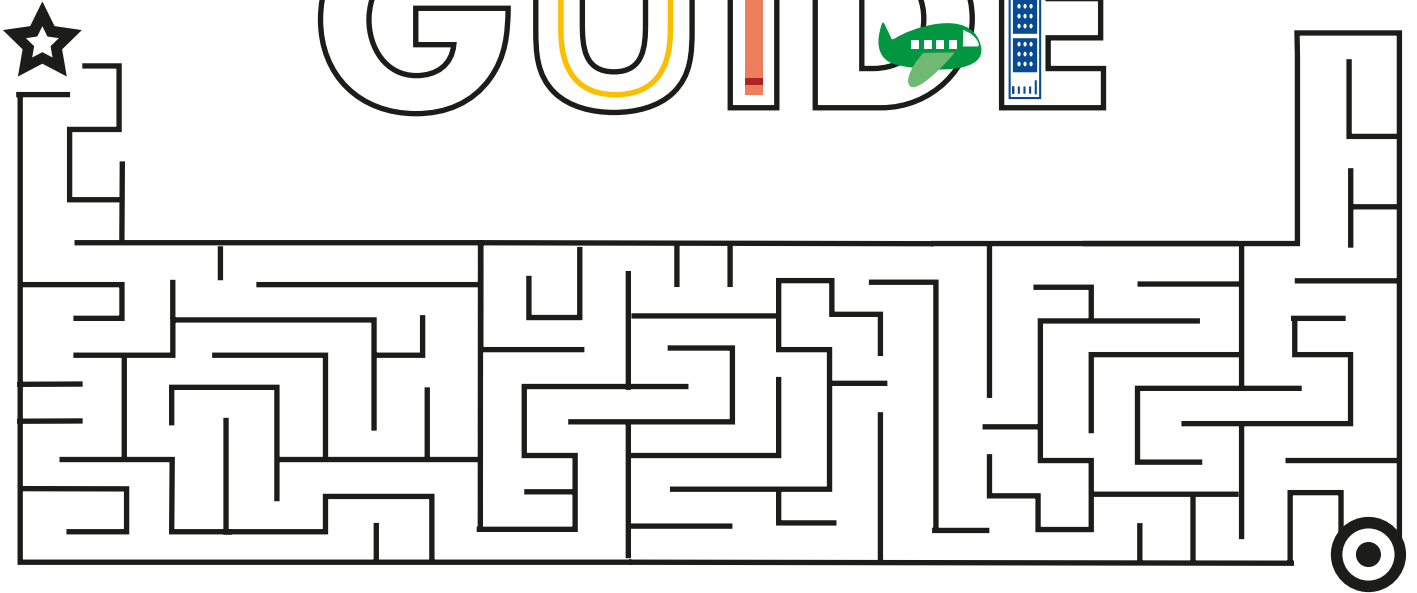


FAMILY

TRAVEL

GUIDE



Compliments of Fast Park Airport Parking  
[www.TheFastPark.com](http://www.TheFastPark.com)

Summer 2014

# FAMILY TRAVEL GUIDE

## Traveling with Kids?

Your vacation should be relaxing.

Let us help you get started!

We're here to make sure your trip is as relaxing as possible. From engaging your children in the planning process to preparing for the return flight, we've assembled tips to give you the peace of mind you deserve during your next family vacation. Fast Park even offers families a little help with keeping your children occupied in the terminal and on the plane. For the second year, we are distributing complimentary FastPak backpacks to each family who parks with us between June 1st and Labor Day in 2014 (*while supplies last*). These FastPaks contain a coloring/activity book, crayons, a small toy and a tasty snack. It is just our way of saying "Thank You" for choosing Fast Park and we hope it makes your travels a little easier!

### Included Materials:

- Planning Together
- Before You Leave The House
- Kid-Friendly App List
- Last-Minute Tips
- In-Flight Activities
- Let the Vacation Begin!



# PLANNING TOGETHER

## Planning a vacation together

Let's face it, parents typically make all the vacation plans – where to go, where to stay, what to do and who to see. Why not change things up and get the kids involved in your planning? They'll feel like their opinions matter and will likely appreciate the sites much more.

## Where to go

Offering up a vote on exactly where to go isn't for everyone and you may decide that this is strictly a parental decision in your family. However, if you're a little more flexible, pick a few places that are parent-approved and let your kids vote on where to go. Have them do a little Internet research or take them to the library to find books on the destination options. Arming them with more information gets them excited – not only for the actual vote, but also for the specific sites and attractions they want to see when you hit the ground. If you have a larger family and think the voting process might get tricky, consider taking a vote to narrow the vacation options down to two and then pick the winner out of a hat.

## Research your destination & plan the itinerary

Once you've decided on your destination, take that initial research you've compiled and augment it to include must-see attractions and restaurant ideas. Assist your kids with additional Internet research (travel blogs are a great resource) or revisit your public library. Depending on your destination, there could also be educational videos available. This is particularly helpful if you plan on visiting a city with rich history (Washington, D.C.), multiple tourist attractions (New York City) or a completely different culture (foreign travel). Remember, whether you are planning a laid-back beach vacation or a high-energy escape, your children can be involved in plenty of your travel decisions.

## Plan an educational vacation

Need some inspiration to help you get started? Consider making your next vacation an educational experience by visiting destinations that have a rich history, are inspiring or have ample learning opportunities. We've compiled some great options ranging from Cape Canaveral to St. Louis. Visit [TheFastPark.com](http://TheFastPark.com) to read our full post.



# BEFORE YOU LEAVE

## Before you leave the house

As a parent, you likely have your go-to list of travel items you hope will keep everyone entertained. However, if you need to freshen up your arsenal of tricks, check out our list of creative carry-on items/in-flight activities and apps.

## Pre-load your electronics

Do your children like to watch movies, play games and read? Be sure to download everything you might need before you get to the airport. You don't want to chance iffy Wi-Fi signals or gate changes that might have you scrambling at the last moment. We've compiled a list of our favorite [kid-friendly apps](#) just in case you need some new ideas.

## Carry-On List



**Colored Paper Clips:** Good for making colorful necklaces and bracelets.



**Bingo Dot Markers:** Perfect for creating one-of-a-kind dot artwork. Just bring wipes to clean up anything that may go beyond the paper — accidentally, of course.



**Travel Diary:** Buy a special notebook for older kids to record their journeys and create a one-of-a-kind keepsake when they get home.



**Paper Scraps, Paper Plates:** They're portable and the perfect shape to make animal faces, a fishbowl or anything their little minds can think of. Just pack accessories like a glue stick, construction paper and those handy bingo dot markers.



**Beads or Buttons:** Buy colorful ones in bulk online and pre-paint the outline of a tree on cardstock. Kids can glue the colorful buttons onto the branches to make a beautiful masterpiece.



**Extra Snacks:** For those tummy emergencies.

# KID-FRIENDLY APP LIST

## Free Apps

**Amazing Color Studio:** Welcome to your personal coloring studio to create your own artworks. Twenty-two themed coloring books of your choice.

**Cake Maker:** Welcome to the bakery of a cake designer's dreams where you can whip up any kind of cake for any type of occasion.

**Candy Crush Saga:** Switch and match your way through hundreds of levels in this delicious puzzle adventure. Please note: Candy Crush Saga is completely free to play but some in-game items such as extra moves or lives will require payment.

**ChatterPix Kids – by Duck Duck Moose:** Make anything talk — pets, friends, doodles and more. Simply take a photo, draw a line to make a mouth and record your voice.

**Fruit Ninja:** Simply swipe the screen to deliciously slash and splatter fruit like a true ninja warrior – but be careful of bombs, which will put a swift end to your juicy adventure.

**Infinite Maze Lite:** Variety of colorful maze themes are available as you tilt your device to roll the marble through the maze. Or you can use photos from your photo library as a backdrop.

**Puzzle Dash: One Direction:** Are you a 1D fan and like fun and addictive puzzle games? Play Puzzle Dash: One Direction Edition and have a blast!

**Slice It!** It's all about slicing shapes into pieces that are equal in size. Sounds easy? It may start out that way, but soon you'll be cutting shapes that will puzzle you like never before.

**Temple Run:** Test your reflexes as you race down ancient temple walls and along sheer cliffs.

**Watch Disney Junior:** A great way for your kids to experience favorite Disney Junior TV shows on the go. There are limited episodes to watch for free or you can connect to your cable provider through the app.

**WWF Together (iPad only):** The World Wildlife Fund brings you closer to the stories of elephants, whales, rhinos and other fascinating species.

*(Note to parents: Free apps often come with ads. To remove ads you may have the option to upgrade to a paid version.)*

# KID-FRIENDLY APP LIST

## Paid Apps

**Ansel and Clair: Little Green Island:** \$1.99 – This award-winning app is an educational game on the environment and pollution. Kids own an island and learn about the world's pollution problems by having to clear trash, create a wind farm, clean up an oil spill and more. They can also plant trees and enhance their landscapes.

**Clueless Crossword Party!:** \$0.99 – A hybrid of a regular crossword game and a cryptogram. Instead of giving you clues on what each word is about, you'll have to use the surrounding letters as your sole clues.

**Cut the Rope 2:** \$2.99 – Sequel to the popular Cut the Rope, this version has new characters and gameplay features but all with the same mission — to help Om Nom get his candy.

**Interactive Alphabet ABCs:** \$3.99 – Set the stage for reading success. Kids learn their ABCs through play when they make the 'D'inosaur roar, 'Z'ip the zipper and more.

**Kids Maps:** \$0.99 (iPhone) \$1.99 (iPad) – Helps young children learn geography through fun, interactive map puzzle games.

**Meet the Insects: Village Edition:** (iPad only) \$6.99 – Helps you become a bug expert with features such as an observation journal, multimedia section, insect stories, insects photos and quizzes.

**SUPER WHY! by PBS Kids:** \$2.99 – Helps your child achieve the Power to Read with this collection of four SUPER WHY interactive literacy games.

**The Game of Life:** \$0.99 – See what your future holds with this classic board game you can now play on your mobile device.

**Toca Hair Salon Me:** \$2.99 – Give your friends and family a new hairstyle. Simply snap a picture and you're transported to a world of hair-raising fun.

**Wheels on the Bus:** \$1.99 – Created by parents, this interactive musical book is based on the popular children's song. Come aboard the bus to spin the wheels, open and close the doors, swish the wipers, pop some bubbles and more.

# LAST-MINUTE TIPS

The planning is done and the week of your perfect family vacation is here. Congratulations! Before you celebrate too much, make sure you tackle these last minute tasks before you leave. It just might save you time and could help you avoid minor setbacks (and heartburn).

## **Packing: It's a family affair.**

If your kids are picky about what they occupy their time with (at any age) chances are that's not going to change just because you're on vacation. Save yourself the headache later by making them a part of the packing process now. Give each child a bag and ask them to fill it with their favorite items they want to bring.



## **Research the airport.**

You're likely familiar with your hometown airport but what about your connection city or the airport you'll fly out of when your trip is over? Many airports have interesting and educational spots to explore. Research the airport's website to find out if there is a kids' play area, artwork to explore or one of your child's favorite restaurants to grab a bite.

## **I have to take my shoes off?**

Traveling can be scary for kids. Help to ease their anxiety by taking time a few days prior to explain what will happen at the airport, especially the security checkpoint process. This gives you the opportunity to explain that airport personnel will need to take special pictures of her princess doll or his ninja man and it gives your child the opportunity to ask why.

## **Terminal tantrums.**

If we knew exactly what was going to make our young kids or even teenagers unhappy we'd prevent it immediately, right? Unfortunately, without a crystal ball all we can do is plan for the unexpected. In this digital age there are many [free and paid apps](#) that you can download the night before. New games can keep kids busy for hours. You might also consider [non-electronic games](#) kids can play while waiting to board the plane.

## **Return flight: the often forgotten flight.**

Don't forget you'll need all the same things to keep them busy as you make your way home — new games (keep some in reserves), crafts, snacks, etc.

# IN-FLIGHT ACTIVITIES

## Keeping busy

If you reviewed our [Before You Leave The House](#) tips, you already have some great ideas for in-flight activities. Here are a few others to keep you entertained mid-flight and during any layovers.

### Safety Pin Taboo

Here's a game the whole family can play. Give each person three safety pins to attach to their bag, clothing, etc. Pick a very common word that no one is allowed to say. If they do, they must give up a pin to the person who heard it. Make it even harder by designating more than one taboo word.

### Geography Quiz

Quiz the kids on geography. Find a seat near the arrivals/departures board and out of the way of fellow travelers. Have them take turns naming which state or country each destination city is located.

### I Spy

The classic "I Spy" game is perfect for passing time at a busy airport. Look around the terminal and select an object that can be seen by all players. Repeat this line, "I spy with my little eye..." and then give all players a clue as to what your item is, ex., "something yellow." Let each player take a turn guessing and time will fly by!

### Airport Scavenger Hunt

Have a long layover and looking to pass the time? Try an old-fashioned scavenger hunt. Split into teams with at least one adult on each team. Find these items and report back to a central location at a specific time. First team back with the most items wins!

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red suitcase  | <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack on a back               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine  | <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom sign                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Someone holding a stuffed animal                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Three airline employees together |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An airport motorized cart carrying more than two people | <input type="checkbox"/> Plane with a blue logo           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Person listening to music                               | <input type="checkbox"/> TV with a news station on        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moving sidewalk   | <input type="checkbox"/> A briefcase                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plane tickets   | <input type="checkbox"/> A construction cone              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bottle of water   | <input type="checkbox"/> A piece of artwork               |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> A Fast Park FastPak              |



# LET THE VACATION BEGIN

You got everyone out of the house on time, navigated the airport successfully and kept the family busy during the flight – great job! So, what’s next and how do you plan for the unexpected? Keep these things in mind as the wheels hit the ground.

## **It’s pouring outside!**

Nothing can sideline a vacation faster than rain. Whether you were planning a day on the beach or at an amusement park, unexpected rain can cancel your activities. Start by looking for a few rainy day ideas before you leave home. Most cities have shopping centers, museums, science centers and indoor conservatories that will keep the family entertained. You can also use this time to relax as a family. At home, days go by so quickly when they’re filled with work, school and activities. Use your rainy vacation as a chance to reconnect, play card games and bond as a family.

## **Capture those memories**

Your kids will want to look back and remember all of your family journeys through the years, so help them record these special moments. Photos and videos are a given, but what about creating a photo journal? Give each child a journal to record favorite sites, tastes and funny or meaningful experiences on the trip. Ask them to take photos that correspond with their entries and then piece everything together once you get home. The end result will be something they’ll cherish forever.



## **Don’t forget why you’re going**

There is such a thing as over-planning! Don’t bulk up your schedule so much that there’s no time to sit back, relax and enjoy your vacation. Have off days that require little-to-no planning and be flexible enough for spontaneous activities once you get there. Who knows, the Ripley’s Believe It Or Not Museum may quickly fall off the list once you start exploring.