

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips broaden the environment of children by introducing them to new worlds, activities, cultures and people. Trips can be provided to interest the children in exploring new things or be used to further stimulate interests the children have in certain subjects. Many field trips within the community are free. Many interesting activities and exhibits can be found in your local schools and colleges. Find out when certain concerts will be held and what science activities or exhibits are available. So often we look for something unusual for field trips, that we forget many of the obvious places that children would enjoy. Take advantage of exploring with your children as often as possible.

SOME FIELD TRIP SUGGESTIONS

Airport - You may want to check the flight schedules to see the arrival or departure of large aircraft.

Grocery store - Look for the large variety of unusual fresh fruits and vegetables, read can labels, and notice the various cuts of meat.

Farms - Animals always seem to interest children. You can also visit a maple syrup farm, Christmas tree farm, pumpkin farm, dairy farm, or blueberry farm where children may be able to actually pick some berries.

Museums - Call first to verify that the exhibit being shown is of interest to your children and age appropriate for them.

Parks, lakes, rivers – You can take nature walks, see ducks in a pond, and observe a variety of foliage and wildlife.

Nature walks through nearby wooded areas - Visit during the various seasons of the year and note changes.

Library – This is especially impressive if children can check out some books, listen to a story hour, or read a few books in a quiet area.

Pet store - Some let children touch certain animals and offer tours.

Zoos – Plan a scavenger hunt. Provide a list or pictures of different animals at the zoo and help children find the animals on the list.

Restaurants – Introduce different cultures to your children by taking them to different types of restaurants, such as Italian, Chinese, Mexican, etc.

Community service places – Visit the fire station, hospital, post office, and police station.