

The Perfect Travel Games

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The Classic Car Bingo Travel Game

Bingo is a classic game that many people love. It's surprisingly challenging and addictive. Kids love bingo and it helps to teach them patience, as well as numbers, letters, or whatever is on the cards that they have to cover. Bingo can easily be adapted to play on the go, and kids of all ages will love playing. Be prepared with a small bag full of goodies to hand out as prizes to the winners. You may be able to play several games with your children as long as you can hold their attention. If one of your kids doesn't win anything, make sure they get a prize for being a good sport; this will help teach them good sportsmanship and keep them from feeling bad about themselves.

Many stores offer bingo games to play in the car. These games come with several brightly colored boards that have pictures of road signs, trees, cows, and other things you might see while on the road. Whenever your kid comes across something that is on their board all they have to do is slide a little red tab to cover it up. The first one to get bingo wins a prize! The advantage of this version of bingo is that everything is on the board so you don't have to worry about little pieces disappearing forever into your floorboards. This version is also very affordable.

The classic bingo game that uses numbers is also available in a travel version. All of the numbers are in windows that slide shut when the number is called. This version is affordable and comes with several game cards and a deck of cards to call the numbers. This is a good version for older kids, but younger ones who don't know their numbers would probably need a picture version.

You can also make your own bingo cards if you want to. Just make a grid and fill it in with words and pictures of things you'll see during your trip. You can get as fancy or as simple as you would like; your kids won't mind if it's not perfect so long as you're playing with them! If you don't want to make the bingo boards yourself but can't find them to buy, you can go online and print out boards that are ready made. If you use little pieces to cover the pictures on the board, you run into the risk of the pieces vanishing or falling off if you make a turn or sudden stop. A crayon is a great way to mark these bingo cards if you don't mind them being used only once; it avoids the issue of small pieces and you can always print as many as you think you might need during your trip. Once the game is over, your kids can finish coloring in all the blocks and stay busy for a few minutes longer.

Playing Nintendo Games When Traveling

Do you spend a lot of time on the road, taking trips with family and friends? If you are one of the many people who love to take road trips, you know that the actual traveling process can get a little bit monotonous at times. You want to have some activity planned ahead that you can do when everyone is wondering, "Are we there yet?"

Nintendo games can offer you the entertainment you are looking for in a travel game. It's no surprise that kids love these games. They are typically handheld video games that are simple to play and yet offer enough of a challenge to keep kids involved for hours. That is quite a benefit when you are in for the long haul and will be driving cross-country. Investing in a small game system for your kids or grandkids can be a very wise choice and prevent the boredom that children often experience on long trips.

When looking for Nintendo games, you will have plenty of options. This game system is intended mostly for children, preteens, and teens, so there is a wide variety of appropriate games that any age can enjoy. From cartoon character escapades to racetrack shenanigans, there is a game for every child's interest. Traveling with a Nintendo can make it fun to ride in the car.

You can even take Nintendos on plane trips! Flying is much quicker than driving, but for young children it can seem to last forever. Ease their frustration with being stuck in a seat by giving them the chance to entertain themselves on a game system. Nintendo games are small enough to carry in a backpack or tote bag, or even a roomy purse. There are also no pieces to get lost during the trip. Bringing a game that has playing pieces is certainly an option, but it does give you more items to keep up with. A Nintendo does not have such small components.

There are a few things you will need in order to make your travels with a Nintendo game successful. Video games require batteries, so make sure you don't forget them at home! The good news is that even if you do forget them, you can easily buy them from any convenience store or grocery store. You will also want to take the game cartridges. Bring several so that nobody gets bored with playing the same video game for the entire trip. A small selection of games and a handheld Nintendo game system is a very easy way to make your travels go smoothly!

Checkers, A Travel Game for All Ages

Can you name the travel game has been around for thousands of years, yet is still incredibly popular? Checkers, the war game played with red and black discs on a checkered board! There is a reason checkers has remained a favorite game even though it is so old. It offers a lot in a very simple package and requires nothing but a board, checker tiles, and two players.

For one thing, checkers can be played any number of ways. The number of checkers is limited, but the endless combinations of moves allows you to experience a different game each time you play. Travel games need to be versatile enough so that they stay fun even when you have played it often. This game can only be played by two people, which makes it good choice for a small travel group where you don't have the numbers to play other games.

The game play of checkers is easy to understand. Even children can learn to play checkers and they will probably get quite good by the end of the trip! A travel game like checkers offers them a way to stay entertained. It also helps keep them involved with their siblings or friends who are

also on the trip. Of course, adults like checkers, as well. It's a game that provides for logic and strategy as well as the carefree approach taken by children.

There are many variations of checkers that can allow you to change up the routine if you get bored with standard game play. Many countries have different rules that govern their checkers games. In some countries, all pieces can move forward and backward, even if they are not kinged. Some international games use only 12 pieces. Others use up to 30 pieces. The board size can vary from 7 x 7 to 12 x 12. Each of these variables changes game play!

Ultra-checkers allows kinged pieces to continue to get a tier and more abilities each time they reach their row or the enemy's row. For instance, a King with four tiers can move over one empty space before it jumps an enemy! This can make your travel game of checkers much more interesting.

Anti-checkers is basically the opposite of checkers. Each play is trying to get rid of his or her pieces first! The winner is whoever runs out first or who unable to make any moves.

Fun Car Travel Games for Preschoolers

Preschoolers can be such fun, but sometimes it is difficult to corral their energy, especially when they are riding in the car. Their need to move can make a long car ride difficult at best as parents seek to occupy them with something other than their desire to take off their seatbelts. Games that you play in the car with them can go a long way toward making the drive to a destination much more smooth and peaceful. These games, perfect for preschoolers, will turn a difficult car ride into a fun one.

Preschoolers love to count. They thrive on the repetition of it. Counting games are a perfect way to keep them occupied while driving in the car. Kids just learning to count can look for numbers on the signs they see. Children more advanced in their math skills can find numbers from the counting by 2's sequence. Finding only odd numbers is another mind exercise that will give your preschooler something to do while in the car.

Another thing preschoolers love to do is to rhyme. As you drive down the road, pick an object, say it out loud, and have the preschooler find a word to rhyme with the object. Finding the letters of the alphabet on signs while driving in the car is a classic travel game. Try having your preschooler find the letters of the alphabet in order going backwards, starting with the letter "z". You will likely have to help them at some point, but what a great mind exercise that will keep them occupied!

Color identification is the other subject at which preschoolers excel. If you have a few preschool age kids in the car, assign each child a color. For a specified time, they have to count the number of cars they see that match their assigned color. Whoever counts the most of their color car wins the game.

If your preschoolers are typical, they see their favorite fast food restaurant before you've changed lanes! Make a game of it by having them count the number of those restaurants you pass. Treat them for their superior counting abilities by taking them to that restaurant chain when you reach your destination.

Long car rides can turn the calmest parent of preschoolers into a frazzled driver. Keeping your precious children occupied with these easy travel games can turn a stressful time into a fun and memorable one with your kids.

Go Fish, A Travel Game for All

Everything seems to be prepared for the road trip or flight you are taking. Bags are packed so full that they are ready to burst at the seams, snacks are tucked away within easy reach, and everyone is settling into their seats. But have you planned a travel game for those moments when the trip begins to get long?

Kids can have an especially hard time sitting still for extended periods of time, but even adults can get a bit tired of traveling. That's why it is always a smart move to pick out a travel game that can be enjoyed by both the adults and the children in your caravan! Go Fish is a travel game that can be played by nearly any age.

The Go Fish card game has been popular for a very long time. The rules are simple. Each player gets 5 cards and must collect cards of the same rank until he or she holds all 4 cards. Usually, there is only one deck of cards used to play this game. It is best to play with about 3-6 people, but any number can play if you increase the number of decks. Travel games should be flexible enough to accommodate different numbers of players, and Go Fish is certainly flexible.

The rules of Go Fish are quite simple and that makes it a great travel game for kids. Everyone gets a chance to play, and there is not too much skill involved. You can even help younger kids play if they have a hard time remembering who they have asked and what card they need next.

Even the best travel plans sometimes go awry due to a variety of reasons. Go Fish is a great travel game to have when you are stuck at an airport, waiting on a flight. It can also help while away the time if you end up unable to be out and about because of inclement weather. Hotel rooms typically do not have a lot of room, so traditional, full-sized board games can be tough to manage. A travel game like Go Fish can be kept in a purse or pocket and does not have to be spread out over a large area.

Go Fish also has the advantage over travel games that require batteries and tons of little pieces. Its simplicity and flexibility make it one of the truly great travel games!

I Spy: A Classic Travel Game

I spy something green... How many times did you play this classic game as a child? It is a favorite for children throughout their toddler years and even through grade school. I Spy is a travel game that can keep your kiddos happy for many hours, which makes it a travel game you will want to add to your repertoire! There are very few games that measure up to I Spy for sheer simplicity.

There are really only two rules that must be followed for I Spy play. One person spies a color of the object and the other person guesses. That's it – usually no other clues are given, although this can be modified to accommodate the needs of each child. For instance, a young toddler may not be able to guess without a bit more help and more detailed clues. This makes it enjoyable for everyone and keeps the game simple enough that any age can play.

No matter where you are, I Spy can be played with ease. The most boring airport can be a rich source of material for this game! You can play in an airplane even when other games would be too noisy or require too much space. Sometimes you may take a trip and it will be just you and a few children. If you're the driver, this usually limits your ability to participate in games with the kids. However, you can play I Spy and still be able to concentrate on driving! This travel game can truly go anywhere.

I Spy can be the travel game of choice when you want to keep your kids or young traveling companions interacting with each other. Everybody gets to play and take guesses, and there is no winner or loser at the end.

One of the best things about I Spy, and one of the aspects that makes it so perfect for traveling, is that it requires no pieces at all. If you have young children and do not want the trouble of keeping up with game pieces, I Spy offers you a game that is played entirely with the eyes, the mind, and the surroundings.

I Spy is a travel game that will never go out of style! It requires no batteries, only a willingness to play and examine the scene around you. You may even see something surprising while you play; you will be paying much more attention to the details if you are trying to figure out the "something green" object your traveling companion saw!

Scrabble: The Perfect Travel Game

Today more than ever before, people are traveling across the country. Thanks to cheap modes of transportation and a multitude of lodging options, nearly everyone can afford to travel to see the relatives, attend a class reunion, or visit a national landmark. But whether you are flying or driving to your destination, you will probably need some entertaining games to play during the trip!

There are so many travel games to choose from that it can be overwhelming. Which one will suit your needs the best? Which one will be entertaining even several hours into the trip? These are questions you should answer when looking at the numerous travel games available. Scrabble is one game that might fit your travel style.

The makers of Scrabble have created a game that is versatile. It can be taken anywhere with very little trouble and requires no batteries! It can be set up in a matter of minutes; just open the board, get seven letter tiles, and you and your game partner are ready to play! This is one of the reasons Scrabble makes such a great travel game.

Not only is it easy to set up, Scrabble is simple to learn. Even if your travel companions have never played the game before, they will be able to pick up on the rules very quickly. Travel games shouldn't be complicated or demand a lot of effort. They should be fun, yet simple enough that you don't need to be an expert on the rules to play. This would be an amazing ice breaker game to take with you to an event where you don't know many people. It's surprising how well you can get acquainted with folks over a good game of Scrabble!

Another aspect of Scrabble that makes it a superior travel game is its adaptability. Sometimes, you just want to play a quick game. That is where speed Scrabble comes in handy. This version of the game ends when a certain number of points is reached. The traditional game version doesn't end until one person runs out of tiles or nobody can play any words. Of course, you still have the option of playing the long version if you have a couple of hours to kill between flights or before a scheduled outing.

Check out Scrabble the next time you take a trip. It's one travel game that will never get old!

Learning Colors with Travel Games

Kids love to play. Playing is a kid's job and it's a vital part in how they learn. A kid can be told something and they will never remember it; let them learn the same thing in a game, and they will learn it quickly. That's why there are silly alphabet songs and rhymes for body parts. Learning takes place all the time and any parent will tell you, kids will learn anything that happens around them.

When taking kids traveling, games are an important thing to pack. Young children especially have not learned how to entertain themselves quietly and even older children quickly grow bored just sitting in the car. They aren't old enough to appreciate rustic scenery or endless fields of cows. Bored kids are a nightmare in the car. They cry, whine, and try to undo their seatbelts. Usually by the time parents and kids reach their destination, they are all ready to tear their hair out.

To avoid that and teach your kids at the same time, try some travel color games. These are great for younger children just learning their colors, or for older children who already know theirs. You don't have to buy anything and color games are easily adaptable to whatever road

you may be traveling on. If you do want to bring along some crayons and coloring books, keep in mind that you can go online and print out cute pictures that match the states you are traveling to if you are going across country. You can print out pictures of state birds and flowers to use to teach your children not only their colors but also what represents the states they are traveling through. Simply let them finish their picture and when they show it to you, go over the colors and state symbols. Save their pictures for a great scrapbook.

Another great color game is for each child to choose one side of the street. Pick a color, like red, and tell the kids that they can only count the cars on their side of the street that are red. Then choose a destination – the next rest stop, a McDonald's, wherever is convenient, and whoever saw the most red cars on their side wins. You can also do this with farm animals if you're driving through the country – it's a great way to teach younger children not only the names of the animals you pass, but their colors as well. You can point to a cow and say, "Brown cow," and most likely, by the time you get to the end of the field, your child will remember what a brown cow is. Just change the game from cars to cows. A third way to practice colors is with streetlights and signs – just have the child name the color of the sign, or make a game out of finding the most red stop signs or most yellow signs.

Color games are a great way to pass the time while traveling with your kids. It helps them keep from getting too bored as well as teaches them. It will make kids proud when they learn something new and are recognized for it, so make sure to tell your child how proud you are of them for learning their colors. And it can be a great game for adults too since you get to spend time bonding with your kids and relaxing!

License Plate Travel Games Kids Love

License plates are unique to every state. To figure out where a fellow motorist is from, all you have to do is look at their license plate. On a long road trip, license plates can be a parent's best friend. Kids get bored in cars and even if you left your house armed with an arsenal of games, books, and crayons your kids are still likely to become bored before you get to your destination. License plates can save your sanity and can be turned into fun, free games for your kids.

The first game involves keeping tabs and a small prize. This can be a lollipop or some other little thing. The idea of a prize also helps hold your kids attention and makes the game last longer before any boredom driven whining sets in. Start the game by finding a license plate that starts with A. Tell your kids that the next one to find a license plate that starts with B gets one point. Keep playing until you reach Z, your destination, or the kids lose interest. The child with the most points wins the prize. You've also given your kids a refresher course on the alphabet.

A second game is to pick the first three letters of a license plate and come up with a phrase using them. For example, WIG could be "watermelons in grass" or "wacky igloos glow." Use your imagination and encourage your kids to do the same. When no one can think of any more phrases, pick another three letters off another license plate. This fun game helps your kids be creative, while staving off boredom and giving you a chance to bond with them.

The third game involves getting a map of the country and stickers. A simple map just showing the states does perfectly. Each child gets a map, and whatever stickers they want, such as stars or smiley faces. As you travel let your kids find license plates from each state; help them out if they need it. Every time they find a state, they can put a sticker on their map to say they've found a license plate from there. It's a great family game, and when you get home, you can combine the maps. Tell your kids what states are left to find and the next time you go out, they can be busy looking for them.

Any of these games can be turned into a contest for a lollipop or other small prize. Just be sure one child isn't consistently left out or they will end up feeling hurt. You could always give each child a prize – first place, second place, and so on. That way you keep the fun, the peace, and everyone is happy.

The Battleship Travel Game

Anyone who has been on a long road trip can understand the boredom that often settles over the passengers. The scenery can be interesting for a little while, but it quickly gets monotonous if there is nothing else to do or look at. Adults can usually manage by listening to music, chatting, or even taking a nap, but kids need a little more help passing the time.

The Battleship travel game can offer you the kind of fun times that kids and even teens will appreciate. Battleship is a classic game, one that will never be obsolete! One reason this is so is because of the endless variations on game play. The strategy side appeals to older kids and lets them experiment with different approaches to a problem. It promotes critical thinking, but even young kids can play the game without worrying about strategy.

The object of Battleship, whether it is the travel game or the full-size edition, is to sink the enemy ships that are on the opposite side of the board. Keep in mind that this is a game intended for only two people. However, it is possible to play on a team if everyone is willing to cooperate. The only real limit is the flexibility of the players. Younger kids can play if they get a little bit of help from the older travelers in your group, or they can team up with an older sibling.

Some Battleship travel games require batteries, so don't forget to put them in ahead of time. The good news is that this game does not eat batteries as quickly as many video game devices. Battleship is a travel game that will provide many of hours of game play, which is exactly what you want when you're stuck in a car or in an airport for a long time.

There are very compact versions of Battleship available from many retailers. Some of them are easily carried by hand and still provide the basic game functions. Other games fold out into a miniature version of the full-size Battleship game. Take time to explore the options so you can get the size of game board that will suit your needs.

A Battleship travel game can be a super investment for your next trip. Playing Battleship could easily turn into a favorite road trip tradition because of its flexibility. The strategizing and

scheming have long made this game popular among boys, but girls enjoy it, as well. Add it to your collection of travel games!

Fun Pencil and Paper Travel Games for Kids

If you are planning a long trip in the car, a fun and peaceful car ride is the goal. How to accomplish that goal is the challenge. You may very well be wondering how you are going to keep your kids from fighting, arguing, and whining during the ride. You certainly can't fit all the kids' favorite toys in the car with everything else that is packed and you are wishing you could think of something that will keep them occupied while strapped in their seatbelts for hours. You find yourself dreading the trip before you even get started. You really can have an enjoyable car trip with just a little planning. These fun and easy games are your answer to a peaceful, memorable, and fun travel experience. All these games require are pencils, tablets, and a good attitude!

For all of these games, it is better to use tablets than loose-leaf paper because the cardboard on the back of the tablet makes it easier to write while in the car. Tablets can be easily passed back and forth between a parent in the front passenger seat and the kids in the back if the parents are participating in the games. Pencils are ideal because kids like to erase their mistakes, but pencils also break and become dull. You can cart along a pencil sharpener, but a better idea is to use those refillable lead pencils that don't need sharpening. Just remember to pack the lead refills.

Tic-Tac-Toe is a great pencil and paper game to do in the car, especially with young children. If you thrive on preparation and planning, you can even draw grids on paper before the car trip begins.

Kids learning to spell can have hours of fun with Hangman. Parents can come up with a word, let the children fill in the letters that they guess correctly, and then see if the children can guess the letter before the entire stick figure is drawn.

For older children, the silly story game can provide hours of fun. The parent writes the first sentence of a story. One child writes the second sentence, passes it to a sibling for the third sentence, and so on. The point of the game is to make the story as silly as possible. Reading the story when two or three pages have been filled up can be absolutely hilarious and you'll be talking about the silly stories and the fun car trip for years to come!

Playing Bingo While Traveling

We are probably all familiar with Bingo; it has been around for a long time. The standard way to play Bingo is to use unique cards and place dots on the numbers when those numbers are rolled. The first person to have five dots in a row, either diagonally, vertically, or horizontally, is

the winner. It is so simple, but can be so fun. It is easy enough that even children can play it with only minimal help.

The neat thing is that Bingo can be adapted for travel use! It just takes a touch of creativity and a willingness to put forth a little effort if you are making your own Bingo cards. There are travel Bingo games that have already been created that have everything you need in order to play.

Bingo as a travel game is played a little bit differently from regular bingo. Usually, the cards feature drawings of sights the players are likely to see along the road. If you choose to make your own, there are hundreds of items you could choose from to draw on the cards. Farm animals can be a great choice. Horses and cows are plentiful on rural roads. Even a goat could be easy enough to find that you could include it on your card. Tractors and big-rig trucks can also be simple to find.

Keep an open mind as to what would be a good item to include. Different types of vehicle can be good options, especially if you are planning a travel Bingo game for boys! Dump trucks, garbage trucks, and cement mixer trucks are uncommon enough to keep the game challenging, but are not so obscure that they are impossible to find.

If you already know some of the sights that you will be driving past, you can include these specific items on the game cards. Unique storefronts, one-of-a-kind signs, and even bridges can make great travel Bingo goals. Just be sure that you have enough common items on the cards to make it possible for the players to win even if they miss a few of the unique items!

Kids usually needs some kind of travel game to keep them happy on long trips. Bingo can make the time pass more quickly because they are looking out the windows, enjoying the scenery and keeping an eye out for certain items. This also provides parents and other traveling adults with some peace and quiet! You'll all enjoy the benefits a travel Bingo game can offer.

The Map Travel Game

Kids are busy and they love to be involved with everything their parents do. And while they love going on trips with their parents, kids are easily bored. It's no fun sitting in a seat, being unable to go watch your favorite show or get up and go outside to play. Play is what kids do best. The map travel game is a great way to allow your kids to learn, play, and still feel like they are helping you.

For older kids, give them a copy of a map that has the roads you'll be traveling on. When you first start your trip, show them where you're starting and have them mark it with a crayon or marker. Every time you make a stop, show your child where you are and have them mark it so they can see how far you all have gone. When your kids start asking how much longer have them get the map out; show them where you are on the map and how far you still have to go.

If you like, you can take the opportunity to teach them even more and show them how a compass works. Explain that marking how far you've come on the map helps you know how

much farther you have to go and that it makes it easier for you to know where you are. This will make your kids very happy and they will love that they are “helping” you. You could print driving directions out to go along with the map and let them help navigate, or even do a search and find out what hotels, restaurants, and rest stops are along your route and print those out. Then whenever anyone wants something, let your kids find it on the list. They will feel like they are really helping when they help decide what restaurant or gas station to stop at!

Another fun version of the map game is to draw your own map. This is especially useful for younger children who can't read a regular map. Draw a happy home for where you are starting from and draw all the major places you plan on stopping. Connect all of them with a squiggly line. You could even number them if you want and help your child practice their numbers. At the end, draw a big smiley face where your final stop is. Make sure to include landmarks that your child will understand, like a mountain or bridge. Whenever you pass something that is on the map, let your child mark it – put an X through it, circle it, whatever they would like to do. This will let them know how much farther they still have to go but gives them a bit of fun since they better understand the trip. You can ask them how far you still have to go and let them help you by telling you that there are three more bridges for example.

There is lots of fun to be had with maps. Maps come in all shapes and sizes and there are as many opportunities to teach your children using maps as there are types of maps. If you're traveling across country, give your child a map of each state so they have it later to remember the trip by. Maps make wonderful memories, and your child will love playing navigator.

Travel Games to Keep Teenagers Occupied

If your teenagers are facing a long trip, you are likely wondering how to keep them occupied. Maybe you are getting ready to drive across the country as a family. Perhaps you are getting ready to visit colleges. Some lucky teenagers could even be getting ready to go on a field trip overseas or drive down the coast to summer camp. Whatever the case, teenagers get bored and their parents like to prevent that. These games are great ways to keep your teenager occupied on a long trip. They may even like them so much that they play them once they get home!

Apples to Apples is an extremely fun word association game that teenagers love to play. It comes with a tray to hold the cards, which is perfect for keeping them steady if you'll be traveling in the car. *Scattergories* is another word game that will provide endless hours of entertainment for the teenagers. While not specifically for travel use, its design makes use in the car or on an airplane easy.

For the literary teenagers, *Scrabble* is the perfect choice. Many stores carry travel versions of *Scrabble*, which makes this game feasible to use in the car. *Bananagrams* is a huge hit lately among English lovers, but the small tiles needed to form the words might make it a bit difficult to use in the car. However, a turbulence free plane ride would make this game, complete with a little banana carrying case, a perfect choice.

The classic *Trivial Pursuit* might seem like an odd suggestion for a travel game. The large board and playing pieces would certainly be cumbersome in both the car and the plane. However, pulling out the trivia cards and taking turns asking each other the questions provides hours of entertainment and education.

If quiet travel games are more your speed, take along crossword puzzle books. When your teenagers get stumped, you can have fun helping them figure out the answer. For logic loving teenagers, *Sudoku* is another travel game. *Sudoku* books are lightweight, inexpensive, and they'll provide hours of entertainment for your teenagers.

Finally, a game taking the country by storm is called *Settlers of Catan*. Wildly popular in many countries, teenagers love this game. It now comes in a travel edition. If you have several people in your family, this is a perfect game to make the time pass quickly and enjoyably as you travel to your destination.

The Dominoes Travel Game

Sometimes, you need a game that can be played by all ages. Road trips and plane trips are great fun, but sometimes they can drag on beyond the endurance of the travelers! If you are planning a major trek across the country or even out of the country, you will definitely want to prepare for the doldrums ahead of time. Travel games are a must when you are hitting the road for an extended period of time.

The Dominoes travel game is a perfect choice for that kind of trip. If you are traveling with only adults, this can be a game that will provide you with a nice, long playing time. There is literally no limit to the variations you can create with a set of dominoes. The classic games tend to have simple rules and can be as short or as long as you wish. Adults tend to enjoy the opportunity for strategizing that dominoes offers them.

Your traveling companions are most likely already familiar with the most common dominoes game styles. This can make it very easy to strike up a game in a matter of moments. You can even use a game of dominoes to break the ice when you are visiting with folks you have just met! It is a simple enough game that you can also chat while the game is going on.

Younger players can also enjoy a good travel game of dominoes. Kids often play matching games from the time they are very small, so the idea of matching numbers of dots is going to be easy for them to grasp. You may have to provide a little bit of help for the very youngest players due to the counting aspect of the game. Dominoes is a versatile game that can be as simple or as complex as you want.

A dominoes travel game will be compact enough to stick in a carry-on bag or even in a tote for easy access. A set of dominoes in a metal box is a good investment because it can stand up to the bumps and scrapes of traveling, but even a standard cardboard box set will help fill the

hours! When you plan your next trip, think about finding a dominoes travel game. There are many variations, such as Mexican Train, that require special domino playing pieces, but they can also be found in travel-size editions.

Mind and Mouth Only Travel Games for Kids

The all-familiar complaint of boredom in the car plagues parents across the country. Whether you are facing a long trip in the car or you are trying to temper rowdiness, travel games for kids should be at your fingertips. The great thing about these games is that you don't need a board, plastic figures, or even paper and pencil. Older children can play them with their younger siblings while parents can concentrate on the driving. These travel game ideas use minds and mouths only, and they are sure to keep your little ones occupied until you reach your destination.

Let's talk about the classic travel games. You know about finding all the letters of the alphabet. Have you tried it lately? It is such a hit with the kids. Have them watch all of the signs you pass as you are driving and then work with them to find all of the letters of the alphabet, in order. You can include letters of license plates or limit the game to only finding the letters on license plates. The classic "punch buggy" game is always fun for kids, as long as they don't punch too hard! With this game, kids look for "beetle cars" and when they see one, they punch their car seat neighbor in the arm and yell, "Punch buggy!" Many families keep points with this game, giving extra points for yellow or convertible "beetle cars". The point of the game is to spot the "beetle cars" first and whoever sees the most in an allotted period of time wins the game.

Another great mind and mouth only car game is a competition to see who can find the most fast food restaurants. Assign each child a specific restaurant chain. Each child keeps track of how many of "their" restaurants they pass on the trip. Whoever tracks the most restaurants wins. For little kids, finding the colors of the rainbow in order is a little bit quicker and easier tracking game. Colors can be limited to billboards, road signs, or buildings. Older kids might enjoy tracking numbers of state license plates that they see. Assign each child a specific state and whoever sees the most of "their" state wins the game.

If the kids get bored with those suggestions, you can always have them look out the window to spot shapes in the clouds. With that game, the sky is the limit!

CatchPhrase: A New Travel Game

Have you played CatchPhrase yet? If not, it is definitely worth checking out. If you have played it before, you will understand why it is such a perfect travel game! This game can accommodate any number of players, so it is an excellent choice for trips that include lots of people. Class trips, youth group trips, and family trips would all benefit from this flexible and inclusive game.

There are no difficult rules to struggle with learning. CatchPhrase is a battery-powered handheld game that gives you a random word. You are supposed to look at the word and then give clues to the other players so they can guess the word or words on the screen. There is also a time limit and a buzzer. The goal is to get players to guess your word and give the device to the next person before the buzzer goes off.

This is quite a bit harder than it sounds, especially when you consider that the words are not always objects but can be feelings, entertainment topics, or even people. This guessing game leads to a lot of merriment and laughter – just what you want in a travel game.

Just about any age above toddler age can play this game and enjoy it. Even young children who can't read yet can play along with the guessing portion of the game. Of course, sometimes you will have to give them a little more help than you would give older kids or teens, but they will have fun anyway! That said, CatchPhrase is probably best for players who are about 10 and up.

The CatchPhrase system includes so many unique words that it never gets boring. It is small enough to carry easily and can even be stashed in a roomy purse. Be sure that you bring batteries along, as well, or the game plans will be ruined! CatchPhrase is not a battery hog like so many games, though. The batteries you put in will last quite a while before they are used up.

If you are going to be meeting new people at the end of your trip, or if you are traveling with people you don't know well, CatchPhrase can be the right travel game to help everyone have a good time. When you choose CatchPhrase, you are picking a travel game that is sure to give hours of entertainment to the whole group.

One of the Greatest Travel Games: Chess

Chess is one of the most popular board games on the planet. In fact, it has been one of the most popular games since its inception in about the year 1000. Before the modern game of chess was used, a variation of the game existed called, Sanskrit. Sanskrit originated in India in the 6th century, and was very popular with the nobility. Thankfully, you don't have to be rich or part of the noble class to enjoy modern chess today.

Chess is a two player game that's played out on a checker board. Each piece can make different moves. For example, the bishop can move diagonally on the board, the castle can move forward and the pawn can move only one spot forward per move, except on the opening move, where it can move no more than two spaces.

If you've never played chess before, this may sound confusing, but it's a lot of fun to play. Chess may take quite some time to master, but it's not that hard to learn how to play. One of the best aspects of chess is that it does take some time to master. It's one of those games that you can always improve at, which is great if you enjoy a challenge. It's a game full of strategy, but at the same time, you can converse with your playing partner, which is especially good if you're travelling.

While some board games are impossible to play while travelling because the pieces keep sliding off the board, chess has evolved into a travelling game over the years. You can purchase magnetic boards that allow you to play with no fear that the pieces will become scattered. Chess boards come in all different sizes, making them very portable and convenient. If you don't have a partner to play with during your travels, but you still want to enjoy a great game of chess, you can also purchase a computerized board. Computerized boards will allow you to play against a computer adversary.

Not only is chess an awesome game to play while you travel, but it can become a sort of hobby when you're not travelling. Many chess players collect different boards. For instance, you can buy marble boards, different wooden boards or themed boards that look great when displayed in the home.

Chess has been around for over a thousand years. The reason is simple; it's an amazing game that can be played at home or while travelling. If you've never tried chess before, you should definitely consider doing so.

Why Kids Love Travel Games

Traveling alone can be a lot of fun, but it's much more fun to travel with your family. There is so much to see and do: museums, beaches, historical places like the Washington Monument, and natural wonders like the Grand Canyon. The only problem is that kids don't always appreciate the same things their parents do. While adults can enjoy riding in the car and simply admiring the scenery or talking, kids get bored easily. The younger they are, the faster they get bored and a bored kid is a recipe for disaster on any trip.

Anyone with kids knows that once they get bored, parents are in for whining, crying, and probably some misbehavior. Kids just get bored; they don't understand things the same way adults do. They don't see why they have to sit in the car for so long when they'd rather be running around playing. The more bored kids get, the more likely they are to pick on each other, kick the seat in front of them, and anything else they can think of to try to get some relief. That's where travel games come in handy.

Kids love travel games and there are all kinds to play. Travel games relieve boredom and keep a child's mind busy during long trips – which for a kid, could mean just a half hour ride. Travel games provide some fun during an otherwise boring trip. They can be used to help kids get over any anxiety they might have while traveling. Travel games can also be great tools to help kids learn while they travel. Learning doesn't occur just in a classroom and kids love to learn, especially when it's fun and they don't realize they actually are learning something. Coloring pages help kids learn their colors, playing games with license plates can help with vocabulary, and there are many other ways of learning while playing.

Travel games also provide a sense of security. When kids are at home, they play. They are used to their routines and kids like routines. When a family travels, that routine is interrupted

and rather than being allowed to play or hang out with friends, kids are strapped into the backseat and can't go anywhere. It's a big change, especially for younger kids, and it's harder for them to adapt to sudden changes like that. Being able to play some kind of game while they travel helps them feel a little more at ease since they are playing like they would be if they were at home. Kids don't have a great sense of time and games make it fly by so a three-hour trip will seem a lot shorter to a kid if they are able to play, making them less likely to whine, "Are we there yet?"

Sweet: The Candyland Travel Game

We have probably all been there: driving on a long road trip that taxes the patience of the younger passengers. The constant question, "Are we there yet?" can become the fervent hope of everyone in the car when the kids are not happy campers! Fortunately, there are many opportunities today to keep traveling fun. Travel games have been on the market for years, and there are new games being added on a daily basis.

Travel games that are based on regular board games tend to be smaller and more easily packed away into a bag or carry-on luggage. The Candyland travel game is similar. It is a cute size and can be easily carried by a child. It still has the storyline of the regular board game and has the same concept.

In Candyland, the object is to get all the way to the candy castle at the end. Each player gets a token and moves it along by drawing a card with a colored square and moving to a board square of the same color. There are a few tricks in this travel game, though – some board squares have a black dot, which means the token is stuck until a player draws a card with the same color. There are also shortcuts in Candyland that can let a player scoot ahead of the competition.

This travel game requires no batteries. Candyland is a simple board game with easy rules that very young children can master. In most cases, the adults will not even need to oversee game play, because colors are more easily recognized than numbers. Kids who like to be independent will most likely enjoy Candyland more than other games that require them to wait for adult help or supervision.

Up to four kids can play Candyland, but as few as two can still enjoy this travel game. The deck of cards has enough variation to keep things interesting. Children enjoy the bright colors and the sweet setting of this game. It has been a kid classic for a number of years now, and it remains popular.

So next time you are stuck in traffic on a trip, or sitting at an airport waiting for a layover to end, get out the Candyland travel game and let the good times begin! There are many travel games out there, but few match up to Candyland for entertaining the very young and the young-at-heart.

Travel Game Tips for Parents

Keeping children occupied during a long car ride is a goal of every parent. Families going on vacation or to visit relatives at the holidays all hope for a smooth, peaceful, whine-free trip! Providing games for the trip is one of the best ways to accomplish goal and doing so is easy with a little planning and organization.

The first thing to do is determine the games that are desirable for the specific trip being planned. Assessing how much room in the car is available once the luggage is packed and the kids are strapped in their seatbelts is essential when deciding what kind of games to include with your trip. Many parents are heeding the warnings of experts by minimizing the time children are spending with movies and video games. Decisions will have to be made as to whether or not video games are going to be included on the trip, or if board games are going to be the activity of choice.

If video games are going to be used on the trip, it is important to include any necessary batteries or car chargers. Convenient carrying cases are sold to accommodate specific handheld video games, but a simple, plastic container that can hold all of the games, accessories, batteries and chargers is a simple way to keep all of the video equipment contained and organized. A container that can fit under a car seat is an even more convenient option.

Should parents decide to bring board games on the trip, some planning is essential. The board games chosen need to be appropriate and interesting to the specific ages of the children. It will be extremely frustrating to take board games on a trip that aren't used, so proper planning is important. Many of the most popular board games are available in travel editions. These games are modified so that they are smaller, magnetized, and sectioned. These modifications make them much easier to use in the car. Finding a container for storage of the board games is another way to maintain some organization in the car.

Card games can be perfect in the car, as long as the rules of the games are well understood by the players. Printing rules to card games off of the Internet is a great way to ensure that playing cards on the trip are enjoyable. Books with rules to hundreds of card games are also available for purchase.

With a little planning and organization, games are the key to making your family car trip fun and memorable.

Video Games Make Car Travel Easier with Kids

If you've ever traveled a long way with kids in the car, you know just how restless they can get. Most parents are desperate to find some way to keep them occupied until they reach their destination. Video games often get a bad rap, but for car travel, they can be a great way to keep kids quiet, occupied, and even educated.

Preschool age children love the Leapster by LeapFrog hand-held device. It is battery operated and fits comfortably in their little hands. It has a stylus attached to it that can be used to draw or write letters, depending on the game they are playing. The educational game cartridges are easy for little ones to change, allowing parents the opportunity to focus on the road. The child hears the directions, so it is perfect for the preschooler who is on the verge of learning to read. LeapFrog also produces with LeapPad Learning System, which is a lap-sized device that helps preschoolers learn to read. Children use the stylus to point to the words in a book they want to read and the device reads it for them. The LeapPad is a great car game option for young children when they are traveling long distances in the car.

For the older child, LeapFrog provides an educational video game with the Didj. Like the Leapster, the Didj has different cartridges with various educational games. The Didj games use popular movies and “stars” to teach children things like spelling and math. It is a handheld device that is easily used in the car. It is battery operated, so if you are driving a long way, make sure you pack some extra batteries!

If fun is what your kids are after, then the Gameboy is a perfect choice. This extremely small handheld video game fits easily into a pocket or purse. The large variety of games available for the Gameboy will provide endless hours of entertainment. A more sophisticated version of the Gameboy is the Nintendo DS, which is about double the size. It has two screens that make gaming extra fun. Both the Gameboy and the Nintendo come with chargers, so it isn't necessary to have extra batteries. They can also be recharged with car chargers available for purchase.

Whether your kids need teaching or fun, handheld video games will make a long car trip fun for your children. Reaching that destination will be easier on you as well!

Why is Checkers One of the Best Travel Games?

Checkers has been around for thousands of years. In some countries, primarily England, checkers is called English Draughts. But whatever its name, there is no denying the staying power of this premier board game.

Checkers is played on a checked board. Each player has twelve pieces at their disposal at the beginning of the game. You win by capturing all of your opponent's pieces. Checkers is a game of strategy, but it's also a heck of a lot of fun.

They now make travelling checkerboards. These fancy, yet handy boards are magnetic to ensure that the pieces don't slide off the board. With a magnetic board, you can travel in boats, cars, airplanes or railcars without having to worry that your game will be ruined by a bump or dip in the road.

If you don't have a partner to play with on your trip, not to worry; they now make computerized checker boards that allow you to play a computer opponent. These computerized checker boards come in various sizes for your convenience. You won't have to worry about lugging

around a huge checkers board with you. Some are so small that they will fit right in the palm of your hand. It really doesn't get more convenient than that!

Not only is checkers a wonderful travel game, but it's great for home life too. It's a simple enough game that even small kids can learn how to play, making it ideal for spending some family time, whether you're on the road or sitting in your living room.

Checker boards also come in a variety of different styles; you can purchase glass boards, travel boards, computerized boards, wood boards and even stone boards. They make a great decorative piece for your living room or den. Plus, they'll always be set up for your next game.

Checkers is a fun, easy, family friendly game that can be enjoyed anywhere. Whether you're travelling abroad, sitting in your living room enjoying a glass of wine or visiting relatives, checkers can add something to any occasion.

Why not try out this age-old, and time honoured game for yourself?

Perfect Kid Games for Car Travel

Many parents are tired of the endless hours their children spend playing video games and watching television. They worry that they aren't doing enough educational activities. When facing a long car ride with their children, pulling out the video games or sticking a movie in the DVD player seems to be the only answer to a peace-filled trip. A better answer would be to use those video games and movies as a last resort and use good, old-fashioned board games as the first choice. So many of the classic board games that children have loved for decades are now made in travel editions that are perfect for use in the car. An occupied family is a happy family and these game suggestions will go a long way toward a creating a successful and memorable car trip.

Battleship is one of the most perfect games for the car. Its carrying cases with different sections for all the pieces make it easy to use when traveling. This game of strategy promotes critical thinking skills, and it is a valuable mental alternative to a video game any day. Because each player has their own case, this game could be played with a parent in the passenger seat and a child in the back seat.

For younger children, *Connect 4* is wonderful to play in the car. The travel edition is not needed, as it is constructed in such a way that it is easy to use even on a bumpy trip. It is a game that employs counting and strategy, and yet is so easy that it doesn't take a whole lot of coaching from parents. Two siblings can easily play it independently.

Chess and Checkers are oldies but goodies and they are great games for older children. Both Chess and Checkers are available in travel editions. The pieces and board are magnetic to minimize movement while driving in the car.

For children bored with *Connect 4* but not quite ready to play chess, *Blokus* is the perfect choice. Also a game of strategy and extremely addictive, *Blokus* is well suited for use in the car. Players have to fit square pieces together by only touching corners. It does come in a travel edition, but the normal version can be used in the car without a problem.

A fun and memorable car trip is possible with a minimum of electronic equipment. Pulling out these great family board games while trying to reach a destination will make for a fun and even educational time in the car.