

LET'S TRAVEL THROUGH BOOKS

Children are curious about the world they live in. They are interested in where people have come from. Use this curiosity to draw them into reading. Your local library will have books on cities and countries around the world. They also have books on the animals, foods, rocks, plants, and weather that can be found in all these places.

Ask your child where they would most like to travel. Visit your library together to find maps of that place. Look for travel books with lots of photographs. See if there is a cook book that focuses on foods of the region. Find a book on its history. A librarian can help you find books related to the place your child wants to “visit.”

You may want to read some of the books from cover to cover. With others, you might look at and comment on the pictures, or share the reading; one of you reading the text and one reading the picture captions. Did you find a recipe you'd like to try together? Children love learning new skills and working alongside an adult. Try making the recipe together. Spend time at dinner talking together about all you have learned about that special place. Use these sentences to start or add to your discussion:

I WANT TO TRAVEL TO:

THINGS I WOULD SEE THERE INCLUDE:

SOME ANIMALS THAT LIVE THERE ARE:

I THINK THIS PLACE WOULD BE INTERESTING BECAUSE:

ONE WAY THIS PLACE IS DIFFERENT THAN WHERE I LIVE IS:

ONE OF THE FOODS PEOPLE EAT THERE IS:

This tip sheet is being brought to you by the YMCA. YMCAs across Canada serve over 500,000 children in various programs. YMCA Canada is a member of the Abundant Assets Alliance, a partnership of YMCA Canada, the YMCA of the USA and Search Institute, working together to help young people obtain the 40 developmental assets that they need in order to thrive. To learn more about the developmental assets and how you can help your child build these assets, visit www.abundantassets.org.

One of the developmental assets that helps young people thrive is “Reading for Pleasure.” This series of tip sheets and the resource, *Raising Kids Who Read*, created by YMCA Canada, helps adults build this asset with the young people in their lives. To download copies of any of these resources, go to http://www.ymca.ca/eng_ycdaresources.htm#Res6.



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strong families, strong communities.