



Wollongbar Public School

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Education &
Communities

Holiday School Work Policy

So, you're taking a holiday! Holidays are one of the biggest learning experiences of life.

At school we give children great educational experiences that allow them to practise their reading, writing, speaking/listening, calculating, inferring and analysing. You can do exactly the same using a true real world situation while you are on holidays.

We will not provide parents with a complete educational program. You are on holidays and it would be unfair to expect the child, or you to become an instant teacher. Some teachers may provide you with English and maths activities and encourage you to keep pace with the class during your trip, but this is open to individual negotiation with your class teacher. The following is a guide only, you will never recreate the full school experience, but we can never hope to recreate the exciting experiences that await you and your family.

Jennifer Thomas

Principal

Reading

- Look at all the signs they see on the trip and get them to read them to you. Ask them why some signs have no words (i.e. so that the message gets across without language barriers).
- Pick up pamphlets along the trip and read about where they are going.
- Encourage them to take a book or books with them to read on long flights or train trips.
- Help them to read any "How to" pieces e.g. "How to put on a breathing mask" in a place.
- Encourage your child to assist with map reading on the trip. Let them keep a record of the trip on a map.

Writing

- Keep a journal/diary in which they must write every day.
- Write a post card/letter to their class every 2-3 weeks.
- Make a project about the trip. They can collect pamphlets photos and post cards to make it look better. Use the journal/diary to help polish (make better) their ideas so that others can read it.
- Write about any of the interviews they have.
- Make a simple translation of common words in the language they speak where you are visiting so that they can teach it to the class when they return. eg Hello, goodbye, counting to ten,...
- Make a list of words you would like to use when you return and how they are spelt.
- Learn to spell the names of the places you visit.
- Make up sentences to fit number plates eg PDW819. Please Drink Water.

Speaking/Listening

- Interview an uncle/aunt/cousin/grandparent about what it is like to live where they do.
- Talk to your child about “things” on the trip.
- Encourage the children to talk to other people on the trip about their lives.

Mathematics

- Talk about the numbers they see on the trip eg money, distances, measurements, etc.
- Make a table that converts \$Aus to the currency of the country they are visiting. Also make one that converts it the other way.
- Make a list of everyday items and what they cost before you go and find out the cost in the country they visit. Compare and get them to discuss why they might vary.
- Continually get them to work out how much further they have to travel.
- Talk about time differences as they travel and why this happens.
- Make equations for number plates eg PDW819 $8 + 1 = 9$

Other Activities

- For variety buy some puzzle books to help your child to use the time on long trips productively.
- Look at the art/craft/music of the region and try to copy the style.
- Collect tapes of the music.
- Sketch/draw monuments/scenery.
- Make a photographic journal of the trip (buy your child a cheap camera for the purpose). Instead of traditional snaps take photos from odd angles or distances.
- Collect stamps, coins, newspaper banners from the country you visit.
- Try to find references to Australia in the media. How do other countries see us?

A school cannot hope to compete with the wonderful learning adventure you are about to give your child. It is a holiday after all, so have a safe and happy break and we will be delighted to discuss how you went as a teacher and what your child has learned when you return.