Car Games for Children

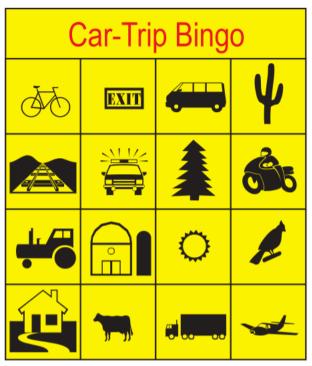
Some activities that can help keep young eyes focused outside the car and thinking about other things include:

- Wildlife Search: When traveling through areas where animals are likely to be seen, offer small rewards for the first person to see a certain type of animal. You can also offer a reward to the person who sees the most varieties of animals.
- Alphabet Game: When traveling through areas where there are many signs, try to find each letter of the alphabet in order. You can let children work together to see how fast they can complete the alphabet or compete against each other to see who can complete their alphabet first.
- I Spy: This classic game works great when traveling through areas where there are many different things to see but doesn't work so well when traveling through areas where everything is the same (like through a forest or through wheat fields). To play this game, have one player choose an object they see outside the car and then give a clue such as, "I spy something that is red." The other players then try to guess what the object is. The player who first correctly guesses the object gets to choose the next object.

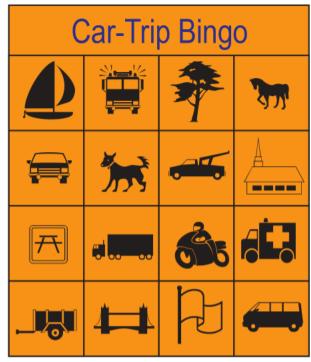


- **Trip Memory**: This variation of a classic memory game works well when there are a variety of objects to see outside the car. To play, the first player chooses an object outside the car (such as a tree) and then says, "On the way to (wherever you are going), I saw a tree (or whatever object they saw)." The next player then adds a different object that they see by saying, "On the way to Kalamazoo, I saw a tree and a rock." Players continue to add to the list, saying each object on the list in the correct order, until one person makes a mistake. That person is out and the game continues until all players have been eliminated (or you can choose to start over as soon as one person makes a mistake).
- Car Bingo: Make simple bingo cards using objects likely to be seen on a car trip (such as a telephone pole, semi-truck, police car, tree, house, train tracks, etc.) in each of the squares. Have the children mark off each item when they see it. Offer small rewards to those who get bingo or complete their entire card.

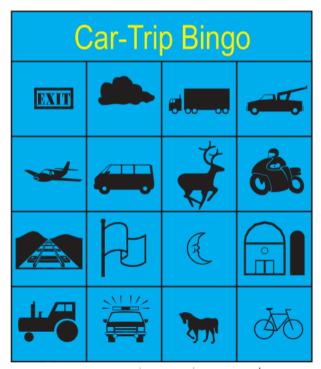
Other activities to divert young minds can include singing favorite songs, talking about what their favorite things are (favorite animal, food, movie, etc.), counting objects outside the car (such as trucks, cows, trees, etc.), or taking a nap.



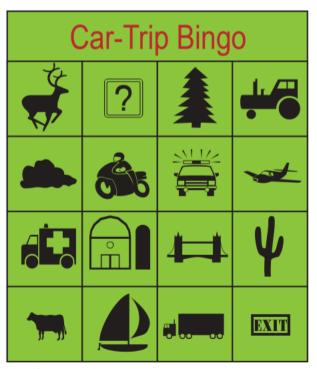
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