

# TRAVEL GAMES & ACTIVITIES

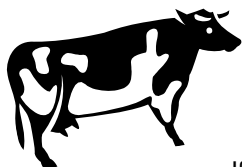
(bring along a dry erase board and markers!)



**Allowance for the day:** Give kids a certain amount of money for the day or the trip. You can give them an envelope with bills and coins and have them count to figure out their allowance, or you tell them a total and have them find that amount from a larger pool of money. Tell them that this money is for snacks, treats, souvenirs etc. They will learn about budgeting money and making choices.

**“Counting Cows”:** Divide the car occupants into two teams. Decide how you will determine when the game will end (time, length of trip, etc). Count the cows you see on your side of the car. If you pass a field full of lots of cows - count fast! If you pass a cemetery on your side of the car, you lose all your cows -- but only if the opposing team calls out "your cows are buried!"

Here is a point system you might like to use to make it a little more challenging: (or make up your own!)



Cows = 2 points each.

Sheep or goats = 1 point each.

White Horse = 50 points

Cemetery = wipes out points. Back to 0.

Wind mill/turbine = 50 points each.

McDonalds = 10 points

Billboard = 5 points

If you are traveling in a city – you can count mailboxes, street lights, buses, etc.

**“License Plate Math”:** Decide who is Player 1, Player 2, etc. Player 1 gets the license plate of the first car that passes, Player 2, the second, etc. Each player writes down the license plate and removes the letters to determine the winner. Many ways to play:

- Add the digits together – largest sum wins. *By how much?*
- Form a number from the digits on the plate – largest number wins.
- Multiply the digits – largest product wins.



**“Find 100”:** Before your trip, create a chart listing the numerals and/or number words from 1 to 100. Check off each you see on signs, buildings, cars, etc.

**“20 Questions”:** One player thinks of a number. Others guess “yes” or “no” questions. Is it more than 5? Less than 50? Is it odd? Even? Does it have 2-digits? Is the tens digit less than 5?

### **Other Travel Math Ideas:**

- Estimate the total cost of a meal by rounding up the cost of each person's meal and adding them together. Compare the total to the estimation. See how close it was.
- Compare gas prices.
- Calculate how much change you should receive when paying for items. See if your child can figure it out before the cashier and have him count the change to confirm it's correct.
- Help commit math facts to memory instead of counting on their fingers. Bring along a set of math flash cards appropriate for your child's age and math level. Show a card, correct answer gets to keep the card. No flash cards? Just make simple problems up out of your head, and keep score on a scrap of paper.

### **Free Math ipad apps:**

Motion Math: Hungry Fish  
My Math Flashcards App  
Math Puppy

Arithmetic Invaders ExpressDrill  
Counting Money  
Math Concentration

Math Word Problems-Banana Math  
Telling Time free  
Splash Math-1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> grades