



Lesson Plan Outline for Stafford Air and Space Museum

Prior to traveling to the Stafford Air and Space Museum, the teacher will prepare the students with the following suggested activities

GRADE LEVEL: Pre-K and Kindergarten

THEME: transportation (airplanes, spaceships) and airport personnel

OBJECTIVE(S):

1. Prepare children for tour of Stafford Air and Space Museum with suggested lesson plan prior to trip to the museum.
2. Identify modes of transportation by land, air and water specifically those by air – types of airplanes, where they “live” (airports); what airplanes are used for – transporting people, cargo
3. Identify types of space ships
- 4.. Introduce vocabulary found in books which are relevant to theme; utilize in conversation and in written word
5. Identify clothing worn by pilots and astronauts

VOCABULARY WORDS: (found in books listed; others may be added)

Moon, space, space suit, space boots, space helmet, rocket lunar surface, gravity, earth, crater, airport, baggage, airplane, cargo, fuel, cockpit, pilots, control tower, radio, seatbelt, flight attendant, runway, cargo, engine, wings, runway, passengers, city, country, land, water, boosters, command module, fuel tanks, astronaut, shuttle, outer space, zero gravity

PASS SKILLS ADDRESSED:

Oral Language

Standard 1: Listening – The child will listen for information and for pleasure.

Standard 2: Speaking – The child will express ideas or opinions in group or individual settings



Standard 7: Vocabulary – The child will develop and expand knowledge of words and word meanings to increase vocabulary

Writing

Standard 9: Writing Process – The child will use the “writing process” to express thoughts and feeling.

Kindergarten:

Standard 4: Vocabulary – The student will develop and expand knowledge of words and word meanings to increase vocabulary.

Standard 6: Comprehension – The student will associate meaning and understanding with reading.

Writing

Writing Process – The student will use the writing process to write coherently.

Visual Literacy: The student will interpret, evaluate and compose visual messages.

Standard 1: Interpret Meaning – The student will interpret and evaluate various ways visual image-makers including graphic artists, illustrators, and news photographers represent meaning.

ACTIVITY:

1. Large group conversation utilizing a book(s)
 - a. Discuss what a pilot does and what they wear; what do pilots eat while they fly an airplane? Is there a bathroom on an airplane?
 - b. Astronauts are in space for a long time – many days and sometimes for months. What do astronauts eat while they are in space? Is there a bathroom on a space ship? Where do they sleep?
 - c. Use the 3 to 5 day reading plan with a book to engage children in learning about the questions above



2. Learning centers:

- a. Blocks – differing modes of transportation, specifically airplanes and rocket ships
- b. Dramatic play area – jump suits and space helmets; pilot hats; and other clothes identifying air, sea, land travel
- c. Science/sand table – moon sand and rocks
- d. Art – easel with blue, white and black paint on newsprint
 - i. Collage – of boats, airplanes, rockets, cars, trucks, bicycles, scooters, etc.
- e. Build a space ship out of a refrigerator box

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Books related to differing modes of transportation, specifically air and space travel; airports

Toy airplanes - cars, trucks, boats, etc.

Jumpsuits, size 8 to 10 for children to dress up; helmets; pilot hat

Moon sand, rocks

Space food

Newsprint with blue, white and black poster paint

Refrigerator box

Books:

Barton, B (1988). *I want to be an astronaut*. NY: Harper/Collins

Barton, B. (1982). *Airport*. NY:Harper/Collins

Landry, L (2007). *Space Boy*. Jacket Art Publisher

Million, T. and Parker, A (1997). *Roaring Rockets*. Kingfisher



My Plane

Myer, C (2006). *Getting around by plane*. Acorn Press

OUTCOME:

Children will be prepared for the visit to the Stafford Air and Space Museum with an understanding of the many modes of transportation, a preflight checklist – what they will do while there.

TOUR ACTIVITIES:

1. Clipboard with preflight checklist
 - a. Passport
 - b. Location of bathrooms at the museum
 - c. Where to go if get lost; buddy to stay with
2. Tour airport – see runways, airplanes and staff
3. Tour museum – different types of airplanes you see

POST TOUR ACTIVITIES:

1. Writing a story about their trip to Stafford Air and Space Museum
2. Write a thank you note to the museum
3. Collage of pictures of airplanes and spaceships; dress worn by astronauts and pilots
4. Travel with rocket ship in classroom to the moon