

## Journey around the world



Source: [Prawny](http://pixabay.com) on <http://pixabay.com>

AGE	5 – 6 years
VALUE	Cultural diversity
MATERIALS	Child friendly world map, paper, pens, glue, scissors to make passports and travel diaries, old suitcase, objects that are related to the different cultures that will be subject of the exercise.
DURATION	The journey can be longer or shorter, depending on time available. It can be stretched over a longer period of time, for example one week and one travel destination per day.
GROUP SIZE	Up to 20 children
OBJECTIVES	Promote the fun of discovering other cultures through child-friendly knowledge about different countries/continents . Get an idea about the diversity of our world through sensual impressions and practical discussions Practical involvement of children through project co-design and participation
METHODOLOGY	Experimental learning
AUTHOR	Dagmar Höhn, Ev. Kindergarten „Arche Noah“ der Heiland – Kirche BonnC



Copyright ©: Materials may be used in accordance with: Creative Commons Non-Commercial Share-Alike License



### Disclaimer

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



## STEP BY STEP IMPLEMENTATION

Project concept and goals:

Get to know the diversity of our world through sensual impressions and practical discussions. Create a "travel diary" and „passport“. The children always get a special stamp, photo or other reminder in their passport in the countries they travel to. There, everyone can follow the world tour and view information and photos of the countries as well as the activities.

Note: The countries and related activities mentioned below are only examples and can vary according to interests, prior travel experience or cultural origin of group members (facilitators and/or children). All examples can be modified according to age, vocabulary and ability of group and can be reduced, bypassed or simplified. The chosen examples are supposed to show the broad variety of human culture. For example Africa is a continent with huge variety in itself, but skyscrapers in African metropolises are less exciting for children than drums for example. The examples are not meant to foster cultural stereotypes, but unique, child-friendly cultural features.

Another variation can be to cover countries from which the parents of the children migrated. This way families/parents can be involved in providing material, pictures, games, food etc. from their home country.

The length of the activity varies according to needs and possibilities of children and facilitator. It can be one destination per day or even per week, depending on activities included.

### Step 1

Facilitator tells children that they will go on a trip around the world together and that they can decide where they want to go. Children sit around a child friendly world map and tell what they discover. Game: "I spy" can be included.

Explanation of the rules of the game in English:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I\\_spy#:~:text=The%20Spy%20silently%20selects%20an%20object%20that%20is,C%22%20if%20the%20chosen%20object%20is%20a%20car%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_spy#:~:text=The%20Spy%20silently%20selects%20an%20object%20that%20is,C%22%20if%20the%20chosen%20object%20is%20a%20car%29)

### Step 2

The children are planning their trip around the world.

Awareness raising: What can you travel with? Where do you want to go?

Children choose a countries/continents for the world tour. Children always find new ideas and ask for further information about the respective country/continent.

### Step 3

For each new country/continent, typical things, photos or clothes are packed in an old suitcase. (This needs to be prepared beforehand, if no items are available there can be pictures of them as well) This stimulates curiosity about the respective country/continent and creates speech inducements for the children.



#### Step 4

Travel arrangements: The children make a "passport" and receive stamps on each „trip“ to a different place. What are borders and what are they for? Design of a "Travel Diary". (This is up to the facilitator. A travel diary can be created with the children and small pictures prepared to glue inside or children can draw pictures in their travel diary)

#### Step 5

Travel to one country/continent after another and execute the different related activities. Fill in passport with stamps and travel diary.

Note: It could be one day or even one week or more per destination, depending on ideas for activities, for example: one day – african dance, one day – african food, etc.. Examples below are just mentioned to get an idea of what can be done.

#### **Destination 1 - Arctic / Inuit:**

Search country on the world map and look at pictures

Build an igloo

Games of the Inuit children

Animals of the Arctic

Mix polar bear drink

Inuit children's games <https://www.athropolis.com/news-upload/11-data/index.htm>

#### **Destination 2 – America/USA or Canada:**

Paint the flags of USA or Canada

Learn English words

Build skyscrapers

Address Native Americans culture

Bake pancakes

Finger plays, singing songs

Native American children's games <https://nativeamericans.mrdonn.org/games.html>

#### **Destination 3 - Africa:**

Build an African village

Bake banana bread

Drums

Songs and games from Africa

Desert

Animals in Africa

African children's games <https://www.africa.com/best-african-games/>

#### **Destination 4 - Egypt:**

Build pyramids

Games: e.g. mummy game

Hieroglyphics



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



Dress up as a mummy with toilet paper

Egyptian children's games <https://www.historyforkids.net/ancient-egyptian-games.html>

#### **Destination 5 - Australia:**

Build boomerang

Aboriginal people

Dot Painting (Aboriginal Art)

Dream time stories

Uluru

Sheep

Australian children's games <https://widebaykids.com.au/australia-day-games/>

#### **Destination 6 - China:**

Eat with chopsticks

Make fans

Paint porcelain

Dragon dance

Symbols and characters, Chinese numbers

Tangram

Chinese children's games <https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/traditional-chinese-games>

#### **Destination 7 - India:**

Paint with henna

View pictures

Chalks paint (traditional drawings)

Indian children's games <https://www.parentcircle.com/9-indian-traditional-games-for-children/article>

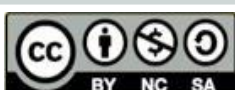
#### **Destination 8 - Russia:**

Tinker matryoshka

Tea from the samovar

Russian fairy tale

Russian children's games [https://www.rbth.com/arts/lifestyle/2017/08/04/7-russian-outdoor-games-to-entertain-your-child-in-summer\\_817042](https://www.rbth.com/arts/lifestyle/2017/08/04/7-russian-outdoor-games-to-entertain-your-child-in-summer_817042)





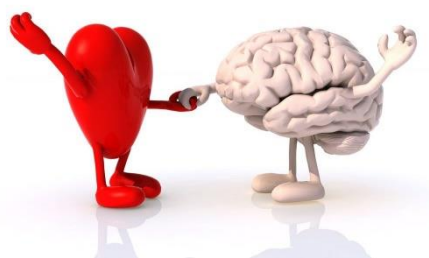
## CRITICAL ASSESSMENT

OBSERVED BEHAVIOR	YES	NO	COMENTS
Children understand that the world consists of different places with different cultures, animals etc.			
Children show interest in other places, countries, cultures			
Children want to know more about other countries, regions of the world			
Children conceive cultural differences as a positive and enriching asset			
Children understand that even though cultural differences exist, all humans are equal			

---

*Peace is not unity in similarity but unity in diversity, in the comparison and conciliation of differences. - Mikhail Gorbachev*

---



### Self-care Hints for Childcare professionals and teachers:

It's not about you. Avoid interpreting blank student faces as uninterested or angry. Remember to concentrate on students learning instead of you performing perfectly.