## **Core Skills Analysis**

#### Social Studies / Life Skills

- The activity likely involved planning or experiencing a visit to a themed resort such as Great Wolf Lodge, teaching awareness of tourism and hospitality industries.
- A 10-year-old learned about the social interactions and behaviors expected in public recreational spaces.
- They may have gained an understanding of family and group dynamics through shared activities in a vacation setting.
- Exposure to a themed environment could have sparked curiosity about natural habitats or wildlife, particularly wolves, tying entertainment to educational themes.

### **Math / Practical Applications**

- The planning or participation could have involved concepts of budgeting, time management, or scheduling to navigate hotel amenities and events.
- Children may have developed spatial reasoning by understanding layouts of the lodge, maps, or directions within a large facility.
- Measurement skills could be reinforced by assessing swimming pool sizes, ride speeds, or food portions typical in such an environment.
- Handling money for souvenirs or snacks might have introduced basic financial literacy concepts.

### **Tips**

To deepen understanding from the Great Wolf Lodge activity, encourage children to create a mini travel itinerary including budgeting for expenses and planning daily schedules. Integrate mapreading exercises by designing a map of the lodge or surrounding area, enhancing spatial awareness. Promote discussions about the wildlife and ecological themes related to wolves, linking entertainment to biology and conservation topics. Additionally, role-play scenarios can help develop social skills used in public settings, such as communication and courtesy.

### **Book Recommendations**

- Where the Wolves Are by Caroline Pitcher: A novel about a girl who finds herself connected to wolves and nature, highlighting themes of wilderness and personal growth.
- National Geographic Kids Ultimate Weird but True 3: 1,000 Outrageous Facts and Fun by National Geographic Kids: A fun collection of facts including wildlife, geography, and nature that sparks curiosity about the natural world.
- <u>Vacation Journal</u>: <u>My Trip to Great Wolf Lodge</u> by Creative Publishing: A guided journal for children to document their vacation experiences, enhancing reflection and writing skills.

## **Learning Standards**

- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.MD.A.1 Solve problems involving measurement and estimation of intervals of time, liquid volumes, and masses of objects.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.8 Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources to answer questions.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts.
- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.G.A.1 Draw points, lines, line segments, rays, angles, and perpendicular and parallel lines.

## **Try This Next**

- Design a budget worksheet to plan an ideal trip including accommodation, food, and activities.
- Create a map-drawing task where the child sketches their ideal lodge layout or around the actual lodge if visited.

# **Growth Beyond Academics**

This activity can foster independence in decision-making and enhance social skills through navigating shared spaces with family or peers. It also encourages curiosity about nature and responsibility during travel, building confidence as children plan and experience new environments.