

# Lesson Plan: My Great Travel Adventure!

## Materials Needed:

- A small, empty box (like a shoebox or tissue box) to serve as a "suitcase"
- A piece of blue construction paper, folded in half to make a "passport"
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Child-safe scissors
- Glue stick
- Stickers (optional, for decorating the suitcase and passport)
- A small photo of the student (or they can draw a self-portrait)
- Miscellaneous craft supplies or small household items for "packing" (e.g., cotton balls for "snow," blue paper scraps for "water," a small toy animal)
- Access to a tablet or computer for looking up pictures/videos of the chosen country

## Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to:

- Create a simple passport with their picture and name.
- Choose a country they want to "visit."
- Select and "pack" at least three items appropriate for their chosen destination.
- Share one or two simple facts about the country they "visited."

## Lesson Activities

### Part 1: Getting Ready for Our Trip (15 minutes)

#### Activity: Create Your Passport

1. **Introduction:** "Today, we are going on a big trip to another country! But before we can travel, we need a very important document called a passport. It tells everyone who you are and that you're allowed to travel."
2. **Make the Passport:** Give the student the folded blue construction paper. On the front, help them write "PASSPORT" and their name. Let them decorate the cover with markers or stickers.
3. **Add the Photo:** Open the passport. On one side, have the student glue their photo or draw a self-portrait. You can write their "birthdate" and "hometown" underneath for fun.
4. **First Stamp:** Explain that every time you visit a new country, you get a stamp in your passport. Have them draw a star or use a sticker on the other side of the passport as their first "exit stamp" from home.

#### Activity: Pack Your Suitcase

1. **Choose a Destination:** "Where in the world should we go? Let's look at some choices!" Use a tablet to show them pictures or a short, kid-friendly video (like from National Geographic Kids) of 2-3 different countries (e.g., Egypt, Japan, Australia). Let the student choose one.
2. **Pack Accordingly:** Talk about the place they chose. "You chose Australia! It can be very sunny there, and they have unique animals. What should we pack?" Guide them to think about what they might need.
  - Give them the shoebox "suitcase." They can decorate it with stickers or drawings of things from their chosen country.
  - Help them create or find items to pack. For example:

- **For Australia:** Draw and cut out a sun, sunglasses, and a picture of a kangaroo.
  - **For Egypt:** Pack a small shovel for "digging in the sand" and draw pictures of pyramids.
  - **For Japan:** Make paper "sushi" by rolling up colored paper, and draw cherry blossoms.
3. **Checklist:** Encourage them to count the items as they pack to make sure they have everything they need.
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## Part 2: The Adventure Begins! (15 minutes)

### Activity: Time to Fly!

1. **Go to the Airport:** Set up two chairs to be the "airplane seats." Take their "suitcase" and have them show you their "passport."
2. **Board the Plane:** Have them sit in their seat and buckle an imaginary seatbelt. Make airplane noises. You can be the pilot or flight attendant. "Welcome aboard! We are now flying to [Chosen Country]!"
3. **The Flight:** During the short "flight" (a minute or two), you can serve a small snack and point out imaginary clouds from the "window."

### Activity: Explore Your Destination

1. **Arrive and Stamp:** "We have landed! Welcome to [Chosen Country]!" Take their passport and have them add a new stamp or sticker for their arrival.
  2. **Discover the Culture:** This is the core learning part. Spend a few minutes exploring the culture through fun, sensory activities:
    - **Look:** Use the tablet to look at pictures of famous landmarks (like the Eiffel Tower in France or the Great Wall of China) on Google Earth.
    - **Listen:** Find a short clip of traditional music from that country on YouTube. You can do a little dance to it!
    - **Learn:** Share 1-2 very simple, memorable facts. For example: "In Italy, many people love to eat pizza and pasta." or "In Kenya, you can see amazing animals like lions and elephants on a safari."
    - **Play:** Use the packed items for pretend play. If they packed a toy kangaroo for Australia, have it hop around the room. If they packed paper sushi for Japan, pretend to eat it with chopsticks (or fingers!).
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## Part 3: Heading Home & Sharing (5-10 minutes)

### Activity: Show and Tell

1. **Fly Home:** Do a quick "return flight" back home.
  2. **Share the Trip:** Once back, ask the student to do a "Show and Tell" for another family member (or just for you). Ask them to:
    - Show their passport and its new stamp.
    - Open their suitcase and explain why they packed each item.
    - Share one thing they learned about the country they visited (e.g., "I went to Australia and I saw kangaroos!").
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## Differentiation and Extension

- **For Extra Support:** Pre-cut some of the craft shapes. Focus on just one simple fact about the country. Guide the packing choices more directly ("It's cold in Antarctica, let's pack these cotton balls for snow.").
- **For an Extra Challenge:** Encourage the student to learn how to say "Hello" in the language of the country they chose. Have them draw a detailed picture of a landmark they saw. Ask them to think about what kind of food they might eat there and add paper versions to their suitcase.