

Clover Kids Toolbox

Section I

Field Trip and Citizenship Ideas



Clover Kids

Where children experience the joy of learning
in a supportive, creative, challenging and fun environment.



Practical and Safety Issues: Field Trips and Citizenship Activities

Field Trip and Citizenship activities are wonderful opportunities for Clover Kids to explore the world around them and learn new skills. Please keep the following in mind when planning and attending field trips and citizenship events.

PLANNING

- _____ Choose a Destination
 - _____ Large enough for the number of youth attending
 - _____ Has activities designed for Clover Kids aged children
 - _____ Has accommodations for food, drink, and restrooms
- _____ Notify Parents and the Extension Office
 - _____ Where you are going
 - _____ When (include date, time of day of departure, and time of day when you will return)
 - _____ Who is going (Are parental chaperones needed?)
 - _____ Prepare permission slips for parents to return
 - _____ Need for special clothing, sunscreen, or gear
- _____ Find chaperones
 - _____ Ensure a high adult to child ration
 - _____ Use only approved drivers (Contact your local county extension office for more information on driving record checks.)
 - _____ Ensure that at least one chaperone has First Aid and CPR Training
 - _____ Ensure that adults and children are familiar with one another

PROPER SAFETY PROCEDURES

- _____ Take a First Aid Kit along
- _____ Take all Medical Information Forms and emergency contact information with you
- _____ Carry a cell phone
- _____ Notify the Extension Office with any changes
- _____ Ask the Extension Office about Special Event Insurance
- _____ Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold
- _____ Wash hands
- _____ Take rest and water breaks
- _____ Follow all transportation laws and requirements, including seat belt laws
- _____ Apply sunscreen or bug spray as needed and approved by parents

PREPARING CLOVER KIDS

- _____ Create an identification system for the group. Use T-Shirts, nametags, hats, etc., but do not use first and/or last names where they are visible to the public.
- _____ Establish a buddy system
- _____ Educate children on what to do if they get separated from the group. Possible plan could include:
 1. Remain in the area where they last saw the group or go to the "lost child" area.
 2. If possible, ask for help in an open visible place from someone in charge (ticket taker, clerk, etc.).
 3. NEVER leave the area with an unidentified person.
 4. Reassure the children that if they do become separated from the group, you will be looking for them. Count the group out loud so the children know you will know if someone is missing.
- _____ Review transportation safety rules (walking, riding in cars or buses, etc.)

MISCELLANEOUS TIPS

- _____ Point out key landmarks or where to go when separated from the group
- _____ Introduce safe people for children to ask if they help
- _____ Know the number of children and count as you change areas or transition activities
- _____ Provide stopping points for stragglers to catch up and others to catch a breath



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Field Trip and Guest Speaker Ideas

Science and Technology	Visit the airport Visit the local TV station Visit a weather center Invite an engineer to visit a meeting Invite a local meteorologist to visit a meeting Visit a local museum Visit an observatory
Healthy Life Style	Visit a hospital Invite a dietician to visit a meeting Visit a health club and talk to a trainer Visit a police station Visit a fire station Have an EMT and ambulance come to your site Visit a bakery
Environmental Science Earth Science	Visit an environmental education center Visit a local county park and talk with a naturalist or DNR ranger Visit a nature center Go on a hike Visit a conservatory Tour a water plant Take a bus ride Visit a recycling center
Plants and Animals	Visit a zoo Visit a veterinarian Visit a pet store Visit an orchard Visit a garden store Visit a local community garden Visit with a conservationist or naturalist Go fishing Visit a tree farm Visit a park or reserve area
Money	Visit a bank Visit a store or restaurant
Careers	Invite speakers with various careers to give a short talk or do an activity Visit businesses Visit city hall



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Citizenship Ideas

- Each month do one thing to help your neighbors or family members.
- Adopt a "grandparent" in your neighborhood.
- Put on a talent show for a local nursing home or preschool.
- Go Christmas caroling.
- Collect clothes/toys/food for a family in need.
- Help plant a garden at a nursing home.
- Wear your Clover Kids T-shirt during National 4-H Week in October.
- Distribute valentines to shut-ins.
- Bake or make homemade (food or non-food) items for home bound neighbors.
- March in a town parade showcasing Clover Kids.
- Contribute to a clothing/food/toy drive.
- Make signs for churches for community centers on tornado and fire safety.
- Take small plants for children in a hospital so they can watch it grow.
- Adopt a community spot and keep it clean.
- Plant flowers in a community garden.
- Visit residents in a nursing home.
- Make a book about the nursing home residents using stories and pictures from your visit.
- Make healthy snacks (muffins, trail mix, breads, cookies) for the elderly.
- Adopt a soldier serving overseas and send care packages and notes.
- Create decorations for hospital patient doors and trays.
- Collect items for a local animal shelter.