



Backseat boredom busters

Here are a few games that are fun for the family to play on long trips in the car.

Animal poker

This game is about spotting animals outside of the car. Each animal is worth a number of points. The first player to reach 100 points wins the game. If you pass a cemetery, all of the points are 'buried' and everyone goes back to 0 points.

One sheep	5 points
Flock of sheep	10 points
Single cow	5 points
Herd of cows	10 points
Horse	5 points
White horse	10 points
Dog	10 points
Rabbit	10 points
Cat	15 points
Cockatoo	15 points
Eagle	20 points
Kangaroo	20 points
Wallaby	20 points
Emu	20 points

King of the road

This game is about spotting vehicles. The first person to 'spot' a vehicle on the list wins the points. The first player to reach 100 points wins the game. If a police car with the lights on is spotted, everyone must go back to 0 points.

Truck	1 point
Bus	5 points
Bicycle	5 points
Motorbike	5 points
Ute	5 points
Taxi	5 points
School bus	5 points
Tractor	10 points
Tow truck	10 points
Train	15 points
Petrol tanker	15 points
Truck loaded with cars	20 points
Ambulance	20 points
Ambulance (lights on)	20 points
Police car	20 points

Car cricket

This game needs to be played on a two lane road. It is suitable for all ages but younger kids might need some help adding up their scores. Everyone in the car has a turn batting. To score, you add up the value of the vehicles passing in the opposite direction. The batter keeps making runs until they reach 100 points. If a red car passes the batter is out!

Car	1 run
Car with a trailer	2 runs
Bus or truck	4 runs
Semi-trailer	6 runs

Car bingo

Before your trip, have the family think of things that might be seen along the way. Write or draw each one in a square of a grid – just like the example here.

Cow	Horse	Truck
Tractor	Petrol station	Harvester
Motor bike	Dog	Bakery

When the kids spot one of the things on their sheet, it is crossed off. The first player to get a complete row of three – diagonally, horizontally or vertically – is the winner.

ABC lotto

For this game everyone needs to write the alphabet on a piece of paper. As you drive along, look for things that start with each letter. The letter X can appear anywhere in a word for example – letterbox or cardboard box. The winner is the first person to have a word for every letter on their ABC lotto sheet.

More ideas...

There are many websites with great ideas and games to keep kids happy and entertained while travelling in the car. Take a look at:

- http://maps.travelmate.com.au/FunTrip/FunTrip.asp?TM_Page=FunTrip
- <http://www.momsminivan.com/sing.html>
- <http://www.racv.com.au/wps/wcm/connect/Internet/Primary/travel/before+you+go/travelling+with+kids/car+games+for+kids>

