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Let the Journey Begin! A Fun Exhibition for Families

Notes for teachers: visit and activity for classes

Tour	At Château de Prangins, booking required
Personnel	Guide assisted by the teacher
Age group	4 to 7
Length	1 hour, on site
Link to curriculum	History, English, French, other languages
Skills	Observe, name, describe, compare, analyse
Material	Previously printed documents for all
Languages	Available in French, English, German and Italian

Subjects

- Means of transport from the 18th century to the present day
- Everyday objects in the 18th century
- Transport vocabulary

Organisation

The class is divided into two groups. Group A, accompanied by the teacher, visits the exhibition to find out how people travelled around in the past. Group B takes part in the *Suitcase game* on the subject of travel, with a guide. After 20 minutes, the two group switch activities. At the end, the class is reunited for a final exchange.

Some suggestions to prepare for your trip to the château

- What means of transport do the children use in their everyday activities? How do they get to school? How do their parents get around? What means of transport do they know? What are the reasons why people travel?
- How long does it take them to get to school? By car? On foot?
- Prepare how you will get to the Château de Prangins. What means of transport will the class use? Why?
- Costs of transport: Can everybody afford to travel using different means of transport?

Workbook for teachers and accompanying adults visiting the exhibition

STEP 1

The accompanying adult reads

Hello children! My name is Fernand, and I'm one of the château's servants. I've been asked to welcome you. We're in the 18th century, almost 300 years ago! I'm going to tell you about how people travelled in my days...

Close your eyes and imagine! You are the children of the baron, who owns this château. You're lucky, because you get to travel in a carriage! Can you find that vehicle in the exhibition? Let's go and see!

Move to next location:

All the children look for the carriage. It is a "berline", named after the city it comes from: Berlin.

STEP 2

The accompanying adult reads

Have you found it? Brilliant!

Look at it closely. It belonged to an important man called M. Pictet. Can you see the letter



all over the carriage? That's the first letter of his name! It's on the carriage, but also on the horses' harnesses! Can you see them?

Look again and try to find:

- The picnic hamper
- The horse with a white leg

And now, let's see if you can find the answers to the following questions:

How many horses were needed to pull this coach?

- a- Two
- b- Six
- c- Four

Answer: four horses

What kind of lights did they use at night?

- a- Candles
- *b- Torches with batteries*
- c- Oil lamps

Answer: they used to put candles in the lamps that you can see on either side of the driver's seat

What is the carriage driver called?

- a- The coachman
- b- The chauffeur
- c- The valet

Answer: the coachman

STEP 3

The accompanying adult reads

I'm sure you've found all the answers. Well done! Now, close your eyes again and imagine that this time, you are children of peasants. Do you own a carriage as fine as this? No, of course not, your family is too poor for that. When you want to go somewhere, you walk! So, let's walk to the landing dock and have a look at the boats!

Move to next location:

Look for the landing dock. The children can take off their shoes and leave them on the little bench and then walk on the pebbles.

In the countryside, we don't get the chance to play every day. We have to help our parents in the fields. Even so, sometimes we like to come down to the shore and look at the boats on Lake Geneva. And it's nice to take off our shoes and walk on the pebbles, isn't it?

But let's get back to the boats on the lake (show image). They are so pretty, with their sails that look like rabbits' ears!

Do you know what the boats most often carried?

- a- Passengers
- b- Stones
- c- Fruits and vegetables



Answer: these broad, flat-bottomed boats were ideal for transporting heavy materials such as the stones used to build this château!

Once the three steps are completed, wait for the guide and swap groups.

Further options...

- Exhibition: Noblesse oblige! Life at a Château in the 18th Century
- Exhibition: What is Switzerland?
- The Kitchen Garden