

My Summer Learning and Literacy Road Trip

# Travel Journal



This Travel Journal belongs to:

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# How to Use this Travel Journal

## For Families and Caregivers

My Summer Learning and Literacy Road Trip Travel Journal is a great way to help your child explore books and fun activities. Each week, discover something new with your child, then help them complete their Travel Journal.

Ask your child to identify three favorite books they've read during the past week. They can be your child's every day books, or visit a library to find a new favorite book!

Talk with your child to identify their favorite thing they did during the week. Have them draw a picture of it!

For more early learning activities, book recommendations, and early learning resources, visit PA's Promise for Children at [www.papromiseforchildren.com](http://www.papromiseforchildren.com)

# Week 1



This week, try these favorite book recommendations by Paula Bannon, Head of Children's Services at the Schlow Centre Region Library!

- *Everybody in the Red Brick Building* by Anne Wynter and Oge Mora
- *Bodies are Cool* by Tyler Feder
- *Red House, Tree House, Little Bitty Brown Mouse* by Jane Godwin and Blanca Gómez

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Help your child notice outside moving objects. Draw their attention to the leaves blowing in the wind, the birds hopping from branch to branch, the children on their bicycles. Give them details for what they are seeing. (*Language and Literacy*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** Encourage your child to use a magnifying glass to examine found outside objects. Ask them what they see when they look at different objects using the magnifying glass. Do they see anything with the magnifying glass they couldn't see without it? How different do items look if they hold the magnifying glass close to it, or hold it far away? (*Scientific Thinking*)

Have you visited Ricketts Glen State Park in Luzerne, Sullivan, and Columbia Counties?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities, like 21 waterfalls, Animal Tracks classes, bird classes and walks, swimming, and hiking trails.

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 1



Books I've read this week

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My favorite thing I did this week

# Week 2



This week, try these favorite book recommendations from Samantha McCulloch, Director of Youth Services, at the Coy Public Library!

- *123 Peas* by Keith Baker
- *How Do Dinosaurs Stay Friends* by Jane Yolen
- *We All Play* by Julie Flett

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Encourage your child to explore different textures by providing them with items to feel, such as bare feet in the grass or hands touching trees. Talk about what they are feeling, and use words to describe the item. If you cannot take your child outside, bring the outside in. Put grass in a plastic container. Use a blade of grass to tickle their hands, arms, legs, feet, face. Smell the grass and talk about the color. (*Scientific Thinking and Technology*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** Compare big and little as your child moves throughout their neighborhood or park. Help them decide if items are bigger than they are (like a mailbox), or smaller than they are (like a dandelion) by having them stand next to the item. (*Mathematics Thinking & Expression*)

Have you visited Couders State Park in York County?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities, like swimming, bird walks, ecological and historical walks and talks, audiovisual presentations, campfires, youth programs, nature trails, and a bird viewing station.

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 2



Books I've read this week

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My favorite thing I did this week

# Week 3



This week, try these favorite book recommendations you might find through the Library of Accessible Media for Pennsylvanians!

- *Regina is Not a Little Dinosaur* [braille] by Andrea Zuill
- *Nigel and the Moon* [sound recording] by Antwan Eady
- *Blueberries for Sal* [braille] by Robert McCloskey

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Allow enough time when traveling with your child to tune in to their reactions to new sights and sounds. Label the sounds of a car honking, bells ringing, birds singing, etc. in a reassuring manner for your child to help encourage their enjoyment of new experiences. (*Social Studies Thinking*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** Good nutritional habits include eating foods that are a variety of colors and textures. Encourage your child to eat a rainbow by challenging them to help find something red, or yellow, or green at the grocery store or local farmers market. (*Health, Wellness and Physical Development*)

Have you visited Canoe Creek State Park in Blair County?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities, like an education center, picnicking, swimming at the beach, educational programs; Marsh Trail Walks, and Bat Watches.

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 3



Books I've read this week

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My favorite thing I did this week



# Week 4



This week, try these favorite book recommendations from Karen Verduci, Family and Youth Services Librarian, at the Bridgeville Public Library:

- *Cow Loves Cookies* by Karma Wilson
- *Pete's a Pizza* by William Steig
- *Colorful Day* by Emma Dodd

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Tell a story or make up a song about activities that go on in your neighborhood or while in a park. Clap your child's hands and mimic movements that might occur during those activities, like walking across the street, putting a letter in a mailbox, seeing a tall tree, etc. (*Creative Thinking and Expression*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** Collect objects as you tour the neighborhood or park with your child. See how many different rocks can be found, or count the different flowers. Talk about the squirrels gathering acorns in the fall, or how the birds make nests for babies in the spring. Listen to bird songs and notice the differences in sounds. (*Scientific Thinking*)

Have you visited Yellow Creek State Park in Indiana County?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities like hands-on activities, guided walks, and evening programs, sand beach, and picnicking.

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 4



Books I've read this week

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My favorite thing I did this week

# Week 5



This week, try these favorite book recommendations by Jennifer Cribbs, Children's Librarian, at the Beaver Area Memorial Library:

- *The Cow Loves Cookies* by Karma Wilson
- *Daniel Finds a Poem* by Micha Archer
- *Rhyming Dust Bunnies* by Jan Thomas

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Allow your child to handle and touch soft books or washable plastic books. Babies may especially enjoy looking at faces and simple, colorful objects. Toddlers love books and stories about routines that are familiar to them. (*Language and Literacy Development*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** Use clear directions about helping your child complete tasks before moving to the next. For example, “We need to buckle up in the car seat before we can leave.” Enforce the consequence (not being able to leave) if they're not buckled up. (*Social and Emotional Development*)

Have you visited Moraine State Park in Butler County?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities, like swimming, butterfly events, hiking trails, waterfowl observation deck, and a glacial deposit.

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 5



Books I've read this week

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My favorite thing I did this week

# Week 6



This week, try these favorite book recommendations from Sheryl Thomas and Karen Pierce at the Erie County Public Library!

- *Bubbles: A Narwhal and Jelly Board Book* by Ben Clanton
- *The Home Builders* by Varsha Bajaj
- *Mail Movers* by Finn Coyle
- *Miss Suzy* by Miriam Young
- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Eric Carle
- *The Scarecrow* by Beth Ferry

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Blow bubbles and encourage your child to look and reach for them.  
(*Mathematics Thinking and Expression*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** Talk about the new things that your child is learning each day and praise their accomplishments. A clear plastic jar can be decorated with their name and stickers or pictures. Celebrate each new skill they can do by writing it down on paper and adding it to their I CAN jar. (*Social and Emotional Development*)

Have you visited Chapman State Park in Warren County?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities like guided walks, stream studies, children's programs, swimming, and hands on programs about nature.

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 6



Books I've read this week

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My favorite thing I did this week

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick yellow border, intended for a child to draw or write about their favorite activity from the week.

# Week 7



This week, try these favorite book recommendations by Mary Garm, Administrator, and staff at the Lackawanna County Library System !

- *All are Welcome!* By Alexandra Penfold. Illustrated by Suzanne Kauffman
- *I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!* by Karen Beaumont. Illustrated by David Catrow
- *Love is a Family* by Sophie Beers

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Supply your child with items to look at while in the car. Attach a colorful scarf or blanket on the back of the seat of the car, facing your child, so they can gaze at it while in their car seat. (*Language and Literacy*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** Have a selection of books that are specifically used for traveling. Keep them in a special bag or backpack that your child can decorate. While traveling, ask them to read the book to you. Ask questions about the words and sentences in the book. (*Language and Literacy*)

Have you visited Mount Pisgah State Park in Bradford County?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities like swimming, hiking, guided nature walks, guided night hikes; Discover day camps and the Oh! Susanna Trail (short hike).

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 7



Books I've read this week

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My favorite thing I did this week



# Week 8



This week, try these favorite book recommendations by Rachée Fagg, Head of Youth Services, at the Upper Darby Township & Sellers Memorial Free Public Library!

- *Pete the Cat, I Love My White Shoes* by Eric Litwin and James Dean
- *Shhh! We Have a Plan* by Chris Haughton
- *Moo!* By David Larochelle and Mike Wohnoutka

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Listen to the sounds outside (or inside!) with your child. Make up a song that includes imitations of the sounds you hear, such as birds singing, a dog barking, horns honking, children laughing, etc. (*Creative Thinking and Expression*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** Play a game with your child by providing them with a ball and a target or obstacle course. Before they start, ask how many kicks they think it will take to hit the target. What is the best way to get the ball to the target? (*Health, Wellness and Physical Development*)

Have you visited Delaware Canal State Park in Bucks and Northampton Counties?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities, like hands-on activities, guided walks, evening programs, a historic canal and towpath, 50-acre pond, and five bridges over the Delaware River.

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 8



Books I've read this week

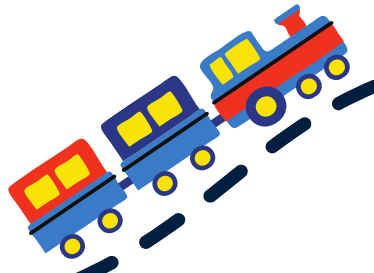
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My favorite thing I did this week

# Week 9



This week, try these favorite book recommendations by Karen Payonk, Youth Services Director, and staff at the Lititz Public Library!

- *A Parade Of Elephants* by Kevin Henkes
- *The Big Umbrella* by Amy June Bates
- *Being Frog* by April Pulley Sayre

This week, try these fun activities!

**Infants & Toddlers:** Sing to your child about where you are going and how you will get there. Use different tones and volumes while singing. Encourage them to sing along!  
(*Creative Thinking and Expression*)

**Preschoolers & Kindergartners:** While at the library, help your child choose a book about the different ways to travel. On the way home, make up a song about the different ways to travel. Sing about different ways to travel (like on a camel, or in a helicopter, or in a race car, for example). (*Creative Thinking and Expression*)

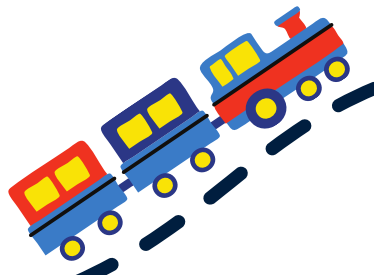
Have you visited French Creek State Park in Berks and Chester Counties?

This State Park has fun family-friendly activities like hikes, evening talks and demonstrations, bird walks, and swimming.

Get more info at [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).



# Week 9



Books I've read this week

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My favorite thing I did this week