

OUTDOOR FAMILY ADVENTURE

PLAYGROUND-PARK-PICNIC

Family adventures discovered at your local park

A playground adventure provides an exercise in scheduling and preparation. By allowing your kids to be involved in the planning, their excitement and anticipation will grow.

Open a conversation about dream vacations. If you could travel anywhere, where would you go? What would you want to do while you were there?

Allow each family member to share his or her dream destination.

As you consider the various choices, discuss things you would need to pack for the trip. If you're traveling to the beach, for example, you'll need sunscreen and a raft. If your destination is the Appalachian Trail, you'll need comfortable shoes and a map.

How important is it that you prepare in advance? What if you forget something important? What if you take a swimsuit to a ski slope?

To prepare for a family adventure to a local park, start a packing list. Include items for a picnic lunch (or snack) as well as things you will use for your adventure activities. The list will emphasize the principle of advance preparation.



Include a few tried and true games in your advance planning (consider VBS and school field day games):

- Hula-hoop contest
- 3-legged race
- Scavenger Hunt
- Egg-spoon races
- Water balloon toss
- Jump rope
- Hide-and seek
- Rock collecting

Continue to emphasize the value of preparing in advance and discuss other times in life where preparation is valuable:

- Birthday party plans
- Test for school
- Trip to the grocery store

When you arrive at the park for your family adventure, “accidentally” leave something in the car. When the oversight is discovered, talk about, the importance of planning and follow-through.

Did you know God has made plans for us?!

*“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can **do the good things he planned for us** long ago.” Ephesians 2:10*

Discuss some good things God has planned for you. What would happen if you were not prepared or if you forgot? Ask God to give you eyes to see what He wants you to do.

