ELSA NET

Instructors

Resource Bulletin: Field Trips and Guest Speakers

Field Trips

Ensuring that your field trip is a productive and valuable learning experience for students takes a lot of planning such as contacting organizations, preparing assignment sheets, and stimulating students' interest. Despite these challenges, a carefully integrated field trip offers exceptional learning potential for all students. The table below helps you find field trip ideas related to themes you are teaching and suggests corresponding stages for a successful field trip.



| Themes | Field Trip Ideas | Prepare | Apply | Follow-up |
|----------------|--|--|---|---|
| Canada | Canadian Citizenship Ceremony / Law Courts | Examine roles and responsibilities Prepare questions Role play interviews | Interview a lawyer and/or judge Observe cases Take notes | Create a presenta- tion showcasing responsibilities of a judge or lawyer |
| Community | CBC Radio / Local Senior's Home / Port of Vancouver | Brainstorm questions Learn history/ mean- ing of organization | Observe and ask questions (guide) Take notes | Share and compare notes/outcomes |
| Education | Colleges / Universities | Research available programs/courses | Interview staff Take notes | Design ads about interesting courses |
| Emergencies | Fire Hall / Canadian Coast Guard / Police Station | Examine roles and responsibilities Role play 911 calls | Observe and ask questions (guide) Take photos/notes | Make a collage Write a thank you card |
| Employment | Services Canada / Local Employment Centre | Research services offered | Ask questions Take notes | Use the organiza- tion's services |
| Environment | Vancouver Convention Cen- tre / Covanta Energy | Introduce meaning of `being green` | Ask questions Take notes | Create a diagram of how to save energy |
| Food | Save-on-Foods Nutrition Tour / Food Stores | Ask for directions Study nutritious food | Shop for recipe items | Create a presenta- tion about a recipe |
| Shopping | Malls / Local Shops | Practise role playing: find/purchase/ return items | Ask for items Find/purchase items Shop on a budget | Present items in poster or presenta- tion form |
| Seasonal | PNE / Fruit Picking / Burnaby Village Museum | Introduce Canadian culture/holidays | Participate in Cana- dian culture | Create a poster with photos/memories |
| Transportation | YVR Airport / Tourist Information Centre | Review public transit Explore websites | Take public transit Complete assignment | Review assignment sheet |

Guest Speakers

Guest speakers in your classroom can enrich a lesson, provide specialized expertise, stimulate interest, and help students connect classroom learning to real-world applications. An outside presenter should be arranged well in advance (confirm the visit a few days before as well), let the guest speaker what to expect, the English level of the class and the topics that are of interest. Encourage the speaker to solicit questions and ask your students to formulate and prepare questions ahead of the presentation. The table below helps you find guest speaker ideas on several themes along with corresponding stages for a valuable educational experience.



| Themes | Guest Speaker Ideas | Prepare | Apply | Follow-up |
|----------------|---|---|--|--|
| Community | Local Newspaper Editor / Community Centre Pro- grammer / Port Vancouver | Read related bro- chures, community newspapers and websites | Ask questions for follow-up activity Take notes | Introduce newspa- per to other classes Register for pro- gram with Centre |
| Emergencies | 811/911 Call Centre / Red Cross / Emergency Social Services (ESS) / Fire / Po- lice (RCMP) / Paramedic | Examine roles and responsibilities Role play 911 calls Practise vocabulary | Role play emergen- cy calls/situations Ask questions | Prepare checklist for emergencies Present and teach other classes |
| Employment | WorkSafe BC Official | Research WorkSafe BC (role in BC) | Get information for follow-up activity | Create a 'good to know' brochure |
| Environment | BC Hydro Street Team | Study energy related vocabulary | Ask questions Take notes | Apply for BC Hy- dro promotions |
| Family | Neighbourhood House / Family Services of Greater Vancouver | Research organiza- tions' websites | Ask questions Take notes | Fill out an applica- tion form to volun- teer/participate |
| Health | Pharmacist / Fraser Health / BC Cancer Agency | Prepare interview style questions for guest speaker | Ask questions and take notes for fol- low-up activity | Create awareness raising school campaign |
| Housing | Real Estate Agent / Tenant Resource & Advisory Centre | Brainstorm questions about students' per- sonal real estate/ rental experience | Ask questions about experienced situa- tions Take notes | Role play tenant- landlord/realtor- buyer situations |
| Law | Crime Stoppers / Correc- tions Canada | Research and investi- gate roles and re- sponsibilities | Ask questions Role play situations | Practise more po- lice-citizen situa- tions (how to react) |
| Transportation | CBSA Officer / Skytrain / ICBC Official | Prepare interview questions | Ask questions Take notes | Create a travel poster/checklist |

ELSA Net Training February 15, 2013

Workshop for ELSA Instructors (All levels):

Field Trips and Guest Speakers

(a) Holiday Inn Express Metrotown, Burnaby

"Language is not a genetic gift, it is a social gift. Learning a new language is becoming a member of the club — the community of speakers of that language."

~ Frank Smith ~