Safe Travel with Baby

Pre-reading

Questions: Have you ever traveled with a baby? What are some ways to keep a baby safe during travel?

Definitions: Host – someone who entertains guests at his/her home
Portable – easy to move, light to carry
Strangle – to cut off breath

Reading

The Kim family is going on a trip. They will be taking their baby with them. They know that for the trip to go well, they will need to be prepared. Their trip will include a long car ride and a stay at a friend’s home. The Kims must think about safety as they plan their trip.

First, they think about the long car ride. They must have a car seat for their baby. The baby must stay in her car seat at all times, even on long trips. The Kims will need to stop often for feeding times, diaper changes, and to let baby stretch.

The Kims plan to pack things such as diapers, wipes, extra clothes, water, food, and snacks. Having toys for their baby to play with is also a must. Many toys can hook on to the baby’s car seat. This will prevent them from dropping on the floor. String should never be used for tying toys near a baby because it could strangle the baby. Plastic links can be used to hook toys in place.

Next, the Kims prepare for the time they will spend at their friend’s house. Before they leave, the Kims plan to call ahead. They will ask their host to help childproof the area where they will be staying. If there is no crib at the host’s home, the Kims will pack their portable crib. Babies must always sleep in cribs that meet all safety rules, even when on a trip.

When the Kims arrive at their friend’s home, they will check the home for safety. They will move any unsafe items out of baby’s reach. They may also bring along and use outlet plugs, safety locks and a baby gate if needed. Packing any medication the baby might need is also a good idea.

Travel with a baby is work, but it can be fun too. To have a good trip, parents need to plan ahead. Keeping baby safe should be first on the list.

Source: RelayHealth, written by Kate Capage

Level 4.0
Understanding

1. Is it okay to take a baby out of his/her car seat on long trips? Why or why not? _______________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

2. Why do you think it is wise to plan ahead for a trip with a baby? _______________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

3. List some things that should be packed for a car trip with a baby? _______________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

4. How did calling their host help the Kims prepare for baby’s safety away from home? ____________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

5. What should never be used to tie toys on a car seat? Why? _________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

Writing

Option A: Retell the reading in your own words.

Option B: Write about a time you took a trip with a baby or small child.