

Ways We Travel · Conversation & classroom guide

Learning with a grown-up · Ages 4–8 · Flexible participation

Which vehicles travel on water?

Learning aim: Sort six familiar vehicles by the environment in which they travel and explain a choice.

A five-minute conversation

Choose one pictured vehicle and ask where it travels. Let the scene supply the answer.

Start here: Choose between two pictured vehicles.

Explore further: Describe a journey using two different transport environments.

Which vehicles travel on water?

Answer cue: The ferry and sailboat.

Which three vehicles travel on land?

Answer cue: The train, bus and bicycle. Trains use rails; buses and bicycles use suitable land routes.

What could carry people across this harbor without a bridge?

Answer cue: The ferry. A sailboat can also travel across water. Invite an explanation using the pictured water route.

Keep the idea clear

These groups describe ordinary travel. An airplane also rolls on the ground for takeoff and landing, and some special vehicles work in more than one environment. People also walk or use mobility aids; the six pictured vehicles are not every way to travel.

Try: Plan an imaginary two-part journey

Materials: Paper and a pencil or crayon, or use pointing and spoken descriptions.

1. Draw a simple home-to-harbor route and water to an island; do not use a real address.
2. Choose a land vehicle for the first part and a water vehicle for the crossing.
3. Explain why a land vehicle alone cannot complete this water crossing when there is no bridge.

What this can show: Can the child sort a land vehicle and a water vehicle and explain a reasonable water crossing? Stay together and use the picture or an indoor drawing. No trip, purchase, cutting, water access or real address is needed.

Return to it: If your route crosses water without a bridge, which part needs a different way to travel?

Ways We Travel · In the classroom

A 20-minute classroom lesson

Prepare: Read the picture and answer cues. Have the optional explorer's notebook available. Paper and a pencil or crayon, or use pointing and spoken descriptions.

Words to explore

land — The solid ground of Earth.

water — The liquid in rivers, lakes and seas.

air — The gases around Earth.

vehicle — Something used to carry people or things.

3 min · Notice: Look together: Choose one pictured vehicle and ask where it travels. Let the scene supply the answer.

4 min · Compare: Discuss: read one question and invite children to point to the evidence.

8 min · Try together: Draw a simple home-to-harbor route and water to an island; do not use a real address. Choose a land vehicle for the first part and a water vehicle for the crossing. Explain why a land vehicle alone cannot complete this water crossing when there is no bridge.

5 min · Explain: Try and explain: Draw a simple home-to-harbor route and water to an island; do not use a real address. Choose a land vehicle for the first part and a water vehicle for the crossing. Explain why a land vehicle alone cannot complete this water crossing when there is no bridge.

Understanding check: Can the child sort a land vehicle and a water vehicle and explain a reasonable water crossing?

Answer guidance: The ferry and sailboat. The train, bus and bicycle. Trains use rails; buses and bicycles use suitable land routes. The ferry. A sailboat can also travel across water. Invite an explanation using the pictured water route.

Read labels aloud and describe shape and position. Accept speech, signing, pointing or eye gaze; do not rely only on color.

A response to keep

On page 7, make your pretend map using your key and crossing idea. On page 8, choose how a visitor will travel.

One clue I can explain now...

Something else I wonder...

<https://kiddos.ai/learn/olivia-the-globetrotter/ways-we-travel>

Related story: Olivia and Doudou in San Francisco — Olivia and Doudou in San Francisco includes cable-car travel, while Olivia and Doudou in Paris includes a boat ride. The six-vehicle harbor is a new teaching scene, not a retelling of either trip.

Our discovery record

Use words, marks, a drawing or an adult's notes. Keep this page with you; nothing needs to be uploaded.

Date / time (if useful): _____

My question or idea

What I noticed

What I think now

What I want to explore next

Stories to continue together: <https://kiddos.ai/books>

Kiddos Books on the App Store: <https://apps.apple.com/app/id6720721998>

Explore the available physical books: <https://www.amazon.com/author/kiddos-books>