

Holiday Work for the Stranded Few.
Bournes Green Junior School
April 2010

Here are the bare-bones of a project you may like to work on as you wait for a flight back home, if you have not already started something else. We have tried to keep the work light, but relevant, with the idea being you could present your topic to children in school on your return and for it to become a permanent keep-sake; a record of your adventure.

- Using the internet/ local news/ newspaper articles, what can you find out about the cause of your predicament; the volcano in Iceland, ‘The Land of Fire and Ice’?
- Keep a diary of daily events as they unfold and enhance it with any suitable artefacts such as ticket stubs, menus etc.
- Make a ‘Maths in the Airport’ challenge book – with answers. Include; measurement of distance, area and perimeter, using creative scales (hands/ paces/ scarf lengths etc), questions about time, questions about costs of food/books sweets etc from different stores and in different currencies.
- Interview and write up the views of someone else in a similar situation to yourself, who could be from a different part of Great Britain.
- Describe in detail someone you have met due to the delay in your holiday – they might be someone who has helped you (or otherwise!). Describe them; physically, how they look and move; socially, how they behave towards you and others; emotionally, how they make you/others feel towards them.
- Invent an alternative journey home – how might you travel? What countries might you travel through? What people might you meet on your way? You could make this into a fictional story and write it as though it is how you got home...what was your homecoming like? This may require a lot of research, or help from parents. You could use the internet, or the experiences of other holidaymakers stuck with you – rope others in to collaborate with you as many may be glad of the diversion.
- Learn a new card game and explain the rules.
- Devise an exercise plan to keep people in an airport fit – be as inventive as you like and maybe draw in the exercises.
- Pretend you are a spy on the lookout for suspicious characters and describe everyone you see, for a day, in as much detail as possible. Do this in a small notebook – make drawings as appropriate. If anyone asks, show them the homework and tell them that all great authors spent time studying other people in detail!
- Draw anything that catches your eye. Try one, or more, of the following; one big scene; one plant/flower/tree in detail; one room with a person in it; one picture of a building of significance (church/mosque/castle/pier etc); and/or a piece of architectural detail (a window/ archway/ roofline etc).
- Make a model out of bits and pieces you manage to find around the hotel, or airport, of a type of transport you could use to get home (spacecraft/ camel/ ship etc).
- Create a poem on any related subject, like this one by Grace Hall Yr5

Ash Cloud

*I'm deadly dust, can you guess what I am?
I'm up in the air, not on the land.
I stop the engines of huge airplanes,
I don't stop cars and I don't stop trains.*

*As bird-like planes climb into the sky,
Getting closer, flying high,
I find my way to the wheels and wires
And cling to them like gas to fire.*

*I sit there waiting, then after an hour,
The giant engines have lost their power.
I slide out the engine, feeling so proud,
Another success for the deadly ash cloud!*

Grace Hall

This list of suggestions is by no means inclusive and you could add to it with anything you like.

Wishing you all the best wherever you are!