Learning on a bus journey

Everyday learning with your child • Ages 3–5

Talk, notice and try things together. Everyday journeys can build big skills.



An adventure on your doorstep

Waiting, boarding and watching the world go by offer chances to talk, count and learn about your neighbourhood.

Use Urdu, Punjabi or another home language. Follow what your child notices and leave time for quiet looking too.

Find your bus together

At the stop, look for the bus number and destination. Read them aloud. Match the number on the arriving bus to the one you need.

“We need this bus number. Can you find the same digits?”

Explore tickets and print

Talk about how you pay for the journey. If you have a ticket, look for numbers and words. Explain how signs give us information.

“What can you spot on our ticket? What might it tell us?”

Count stops and compare

Once seated, count a few stops together. Notice groups of vehicles or buildings. Compare more and fewer, taller and shorter.

“We have passed two stops. One more makes how many?”

Talk about the view

Describe shops, parks and buildings from your seat. Notice familiar places and new ones. Add words to your child’s ideas.

“That shop looks busy. What do you think it sells?”

Practise kindness and patience

Wait together, let people get off first and use polite words. Talk about making space for others and thanking the driver when leaving.

“How can we help everyone get on and off comfortably?”

Remember your journey

Notice a landmark near your stop. Talk about what happened first, next and last. At home, draw a bus route or play pretend buses.

“First we waited, then we boarded. What happened next?”

Make it right for your child

Start simple: spot a bus, match a digit or name something outside.
Add a challenge: count stops, explain a sign or draw and label your route.

Keep it short and playful. Quiet looking and listening count too.

Stay together and wait back from the kerb. Sit when possible; hold a rail if standing. Keep the aisle clear and avoid distracting the driver. Wait until the bus stops before getting off.

St. Philip's CE Primary Academy
Working Together