Planning an Effective Field Trip

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What are the purposes of the session?

• Introduce STARTALK Field Trip Planning Guide
• Explore effective ways to design and implement field trips
• Expand the traditional concept of field trips
• Pilot new field trip planning templates
• Discuss applications to your programs
What will we be doing?

• Describe the background for the field trip guide
• Reflect on past field trip experiences
• Explore qualities of effective field trips
• Introduce new field trip planning guide and templates
• Pilot field trip planning templates
• Q&A
Field Trips: What the STARTALK data tell us

• Self-reported data
  – Were field trips conducted?
  – What were destinations for field trips?

• Survey data
  – What was student satisfaction with field trips?
Programs self reported a field trip as part of their program.

- 2008: 63.40%
- 2009: 58.70%
- 2010: 75.90%
Locations of STARTALK Field Trips

- Local Ethnic community: 37%
- Restaurant: 23%
- Other: 14%
- Religious site: 13%
- Museum: 13%
Overall satisfaction (**strongly agree** and **agree**) with program as compared to field trips

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Learning a language during the summer</th>
<th>Field trips helpful for language learning</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>93.80%</td>
<td>71.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>94.30%</td>
<td>74.80%</td>
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</table>
What do our students say?

Representative Positive Quotes

• Also, the field trips were very eye opening and helpful because it aided in my knowledge of the XXX culture.

• I enjoyed the clubs and the field trips we attended to see the culture up close

• There was the clubs and field trips that let us get more into the culture of the language and to help us learn the language they spoke in nothing but XXX.

• The thing I liked best were the cultural experiences and field trips because you could speak the language perfectly, but if you're arrogant of the culture you won't survive in the country as easily as you would've.
What do our students say?
Representative Negative Quotes

• The field trip to XXX Market did not fully require speaking Mandarin, since most of the workers there didn't speak Mandarin, but spoke Cantonese.
• What I didn't like is that some of the field trips made no sense to me and didn’t seem to have to do with the XXX language. I think a better choice in field trips should be chosen.
• there was barely anything related to the XXX language and we spent most of the time on the bus.
• Some of the field trips were kind of pointless.
• We spent 3 hours at a museum which was completely unrelated to XXX language or culture. Whoever budgeted time and planned excursions did not take the time to consider that they were planning for 30 adventurous teenagers.
More than half of STARTALK programs conduct field trips.

Students’ general satisfaction with field trips is consistently lower than their satisfaction with the program.

What can we do to improve field trips as a language and cultural learning activity?
Activity 1

- Think
- Pair
- Share
STARTALK Guide to Planning a Purposeful Field Trip

• Introduction
• Findings and Discussions
• Review of Research
• Proposing a Standards-Based Framework
• Planning and Implementing a Field Trip
• Conclusion
• Planning Templates
Why organize field trips?

Advantages of Field Trips:

• Provide valuable experiential learning opportunities.
• Connect knowledge, skills, and learning to the real world.
• Increase learners’ motivation and interest.
How do we plan an effective field trip?

- Curricular Planning
- Logistical Planning
What are the considerations for curricular planning?

• Setting goals and objectives
• Alignment with the curriculum
• Meaningful activities (pre-, during-, and post-trip)
• Incorporation of ACTFL’s National Standards for Foreign Language Education
What are the considerations for logistical planning?

• Support the curricular plan:
  Select an appropriate site
  Coordinate with site personnel

• Address administrative and legal issues:
  Obtain administrative approval
  Obtain parental permission, etc.

• Address health and safety issues:
  First aid supplies
  Chaperon / buddy system, etc.
Expanding the Types and Range of Field Trips

- Physical field trips
- Simulated field trips
- Virtual field trips
Physical Field Trip

• Students visit an actual field trip site and interact with people of the culture who know and speak the language.
Simulated Field Trip

• The site is created for the students according to the purpose and goals of the field trip.
Virtual field Trip

• Students visit certain websites and have the field trip experience online.
Activity 2
Planning an Effective Field Trip

• Work in small groups.
• Plan a field trip using the templates.
• Be ready to share your plans.
How effective are our field trip planning templates?

• Provide feedback on the templates.
• Feedback? startalk@nflc.org

• Do you want to sign up for follow up?