

Family Road Trip

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What comes to mind when you read the title?

Definitions:

- Critical – very important
- Destination – a place where someone is going



Reading

13 The Cruz family is **preparing** for their annual camping trip. It's a family
28 tradition. They've been doing it ever since their oldest child was five years old. The
46 Cruz children are now 11, 9 and 6. Over the years, their parents have learned a lot about
traveling with children.

49 Mom and Dad believe that organization is a critical piece to having a good trip. A
65 week before the trip, they make a list of all the items that are needed. As soon as an
84 item is packed into the car, it is crossed off the list.

96 With a little help from Mom and Dad, the Cruz children make their own lists and
112 pack their own belongings. Each child must have at least two books, a favorite CD, a
128 tablet, and a pencil, pen, crayons, or markers.

136 Reading, music, and games make the miles go much faster. The Cruz's have 15
150 minutes of silent reading in the car every hour. After reading time is finished, all the
166 readers receive a small snack surprise from Mom.

174 The tablet and writing tools help pass the time too. The 6 year old likes to write
191 all the letters of the alphabet, both upper and lower case. They all like to create colorful
208 drawings and pictures.

211 Music and games are a fun part of car travel. The Cruzs often sing along with
227 their CDs. They also play car games like searching for different animals or license
241 plates.

242 The Cruz family has learned how to make travel fun for the whole family. They
257 always look forward to their trip.

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Level 4.0

Understanding

1. What does the word **prepare** mean? _____

2. How do the Cruzs prepare for their trip? _____

3. How often do they take a camping trip? _____

4. What does each child need to pack? Why? _____

5. What kind of surprise does Mom bring? When is it revealed? _____

6. The trip was called a tradition. Why? _____

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: Have you taken a car trip with kids? If yes, write about it.
