Activity: Planning a Vacation

Materials needed: Students need realia for this activity, either Internet links to travel destinations or travel brochures for a city or series of cities. In the United States, the back section of AAA magazine is a great source of easy-to-access travel information. Also, many hotels, museums, and other attractions in metropolitan areas have a brochure rack with brochures for tourists. Finally, teachers can request free brochures online from state tourist organizations or chambers. Some suitable travel links are also listed below.

In addition, you can provide students with a template, either on the board or on a worksheet that divides the time into sections like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travel Time</td>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Night</td>
<td>Night</td>
<td>Travel Time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description: In small groups or pairs, students plan a future vacation together. The target language is be going to and the present progressive for talking about future activities.

Give students the links or the materials they need that show their travel destination. Then, set a limit, such as a three-day weekend, which they have to agree on and then plan how they will use their time at their destination. Students have to do everything together on their fantasy trip, but money is no object!

When everyone is finished, each group presents to the whole class, explaining what they are going to do, where they are going to stay, and any special restaurants they are going to visit on their trip.
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Destination-related links:

Hilton Resort, Arizona http://www.pointehilton.com/indexsp.cfm (Activities include golf, tennis, a spa with many services, several restaurants and bars, several swimming pools, fitness center, nature hikes.)

New York City Tourist http://www.nyctourist.com (Site is a little dense, but has easily discernable categories for Broadway shows, hotels, restaurants, sports, events, and tours, with a description of each.)

Visit London http://na.visitlondon.com (Be sure to especially notice the Top Ten Attractions)

Discover Orlando http://www.orlandoinfo.com (Don’t forget to check out Top Deals.)