

## Line Games

My family goes many places in our community. Once in a while, we play games to get smarter about lines. We call them the Line Games. This is a list of them and how to play each one.

### #1. Lines Ahead



There are a couple of ways to play Lines Ahead.

- Tell others when a line of vehicles, people, or animals are spotted,
- Guess how many lines we'll be in between now and when we get home, or
- Guess where the longest/shortest/fastest line will be.

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### #2. Name That Line!



There are many kinds of lines. Sometimes there's no line, but people are waiting in order. For example, in the community we often see Basic Lines, Stand Wherever it Works Lines, and Name Lines.

To play this game, whenever we are in a line, we try to identify it by name. If it's a new kind of line, we may think of a name for it!

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### #3. Line Race



People all over the world play the Line Race (without calling it that) and most of them don't think they are very good at it. We play it in places where there is more than one line of customers waiting to check-out, like a grocery store.



My family chooses one person at the end of two or three lines. We try to guess which person will make it through the line and finish checking-out first. Sometimes, we try to guess who will be last.



There's another way to play. We select two lines that seem to be moving well. We take our place at the end of one of the lines. We try to talk about why we chose our line. Every five minutes, we guess who will be done checking out first - or last.

#### #4. Time Trials: Guess & Guess Right!



To play Time Trials, one person has to have a time-telling device, like a watch or a cell phone. When we get in a line, we check the time. Then, we guess what time it will be when we leave the line. We may guess as a family, or guess on our own.

Sometimes, the winner is the person who comes closest to guessing the time as we leave. Other times, as we leave, we allow changing all guesses to our correct departure time.

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#### #5. Head Games



To play Head Games, we work as a team to think of fun things to do to stay calm while waiting in line. No electronic devices are allowed. We can use one of these activities or our own ideas:

- Look for things that begin with the letter \_\_\_\_\_.
- Look for someone with a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Things that a person can do while waiting in a line are \_\_\_\_\_.

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#### #6. Team Reasons Race



My family plays the Team Reasons Race when we are in a place with four or more cashier lines. We need at least two adults and two kids, two lists of about the same length, two shopping carts or baskets, two small pads of paper, and two pencils or pens (or two electronic devices for typing).

We divide into two teams, select a place to meet, gather our items, and return to our meeting spot when we are done. Each team chooses a check-out line that they guess will be the fastest, writing down the reasons why they chose their line. Teams must choose separate lines. The team with the longest list of reasons, wins.

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#### #7. Stay or Go.



Stay or Go requires an adult who gives permission to play and agrees to go along with the outcome. It is best played in a long line that is moving slowly. The adult chooses the Leader (an adult or a kid) who decides whether to stay and wait in the line, or go. The Leader may invite others to help by sharing reasons to stay or go. However, others may not express their opinions or tell the Leader what to do. There is no time limit. The decision of the Stay or Go Leader is final. Once the decision is announced, everyone in the group stays, or goes!

