Whether you are a frequent flyer or more of a staycation kind of family, books offer an entertaining and informative chance to travel the world, all without leaving the comforts of home! Here are some recommended books for your family’s passport to global citizenship!

“At the Same Moment, Around the World” by Clothide Perrin (2014)
Readers begin at Greenwich Mean Time and travel the world, time zone by time zone, from day to night, moving east to see what children in each of 24 zones are doing at a given moment of the day.

“Delicious! Poems Celebrating Street Food Around the World” by Julie Larios and Julie Paschkis (2021)
Brief rhyming poems cover continents and cuisines to introduce young readers to street food snacks from around the world, while cheerful illustrations fill each page with regionally-inspired colors, patterns and decor.

“Me and the World: An Infographic Exploration” by Mireia Trius and Joana Casals (2020)
This book offers a visually appealing introduction to infographics and a fascinating way for children to orient themselves with global guides.

“Off to Class: Incredible and Unusual Schools Around the World” by Susan Hughes (2011)
Through photographs and interviews, this informative survey takes your child on a global field trip to schools like visit schools serving children in unexpected places such as on Bangladeshi boats, Chinese caves and tents of reindeer-herding nomads of Siberia.

“Pancakes to Parathas: Breakfast Around the World” by Alice B. McGinty and Tomoko Suzuki (2019)
With cheerful illustrations and gentle rhymes, take a tour of tables as children around the world enjoy the most important meal of the day.

“This Is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from Around the World” by Matt Lamothe (2017)
Spend one day in the lives of seven real children representing Iran, Japan, Italy, Peru, Uganda, and Russia to learn about their customs and cultures. Pair this book with “This is How I Do It” (2019), a corresponding activity book inviting children to document their own routines.

“This is My World” by Lonely Planet Kids (2019)
Eighty-four children from around the world answer travel guru Lonely Planet’s call to share information about their homes, hobbies and families, each child from Ada (Turkey) to Zayan (Morocco) offer stories and photographs about themselves.
This colorful tour of ten global train tunnels covers some serious turf, while a search-and-find element in each city introduces young readers to cultural items popular to the region (think a bulldog in London and a bento box in Tokyo).

After you’ve traveled the world, revisit places that intrigued you with one of these family activities to extend your learning and fun:

- Choose a meal to research and cook as family.
- Research the cultural origins of your family’s favorite celebration and draw a picture or write a rhyme about what makes that event a special tradition for you.
- Make up a new celebration unique to your family; how will you mark the occasion?