



Tues 9 June

Tram/Camera Obscura/Gardens

Today we went to the Camera Obscura in Edinburgh and then to Princes Street Gardens. It was no ordinary journey as we took the tram from the park-and-ride at the airport to Princes Street in the centre of Edinburgh. The conductor took our word for it when we said 7 adults and 20 children, too many tickets to check. Then it was a walk up The Mound and Milne's Court steps onto the High Street. Once inside the Camera Obscura we went straight to the 6th floor, a steep climb and after a look from the balcony we went inside for the show. Of course just then Lena decides she needs the toilet, which is on the first floor!! All the way down and back up again, good exercise. Then the children went from floor to floor having a great time playing with the different illusions, from heads with no bodies, turning their faces into monkey faces, to the mirror maze and the spinning vortex. I think we could have stayed most of the day but they were getting hungry so we went to the gardens for lunch and playtime. We had taken equipment for games but the children were happy to just run around playing their own games in the sunshine on the grass and really that's exactly what they are here for, we can lay on lots of interesting things but in the end children just like to play their own games in their own way. We went for a pit stop into the National Gallery only to find the cleaner was fluent in Russian. The children always seem amazed when someone here can speak to them in their own language. Then back on the tram and back to the hall. A very interesting and fun day for the children in Scotlands capital city.

