

**IF YOU COME TO BELARUS TO ENJOY YOUR  
HOLIDAY**

<b>DO</b>	<b>DON'T</b>
swim and fish in com- pany ...	swim in cold water ...

**b) Work individually. Write your safety tips.**

**Example:** *If you come to Belarus to enjoy your holiday, always swim and fish in company. If you swim in company, you will always get help.*

## **LESSON 9. Travelling from point A to point B**

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**Communicative area:** reading and speaking about the places of interest of Belarus

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**1. a) What do you think letters A and B stand for in the title of the lesson?**

**b) Put the landmarks below in two columns: Australia and Belarus.**

Belovezhskaya Pushcha, Ayers Rock (Uluru), Novogrudok, Polotsk, Mir and Nesvizh castles, the Braslav Lakes, Great Barrier Reef, Grodno, Canberra, Raubichi, Dudutki, Naroch region.

**c) In pairs, tell each other what you know about these places.**

d) Have you been to any of these places? Would you like to go there again? Why?

2. a) Look through the pages from the *Travel Guide* on Belarus. Which of the places of interest is the furthest away from Minsk? Which of them is the closest to where you live?

b) Prepare to tell your classmates about one of the places.



A bird's eye view of  
Belarus

**National Park “Braslav Lakes”** (250 km from Minsk) is one of the most attractive places in Belarus. The area of the lakes is 183 sq. km. One of them – Lake South Volos – is about 40 m deep. The lakes are surrounded with beautiful landscapes. The Braslav Lakes have more than 800 species of plants, 20 of them are disappearing and they are in the Red Book. There are more than 30 species of fish in the lakes. 45

of the birds are in the Red Book too – they are in danger. Such animals as badgers, brown bears, elks, wild boars and deer live in the forests around the lakes. The centre of the National Park is Braslav – one of the most ancient towns in Belarus. It was first mentioned in early 11<sup>th</sup> century.

**Sport Complex “Raubichi”** (22 km from Minsk). This sports complex in the central part of Belarus was built for ski competitions. Now it is a popular place for festivals and weekend holidays – tourists can stay in comfortable three-star hotels and lovely little cottages. There is a forest and a lake there and in winter you can ski-jump and ride on sledges. Right here there is a historical monu-

ment – a Cross Mount Roman-Catholic church with a museum of local costume from all regions of Belarus.

**Dudutki** (40 km from Minsk) is an open-air museum. This is a museum of handicrafts which was founded in 1993. Here the past and present are brought together and you can feel the atmosphere of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and discover the secrets of ancient handicrafts. It makes Dudutki one of the centres of cultural life in Belarus.

**Grodno** (278 km from Minsk). Grodno was first mentioned in 1128 AD. It is one of the oldest cities in Belarus. It was founded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century on the picturesque banks of the Neman River. Monuments of all periods of history have survived in Grodno: the Church of St. Boris and Gleb (the only 12<sup>th</sup> century church in Belarus); the Old Castle (a monument of the 16<sup>th</sup> century); the New Castle (the 18<sup>th</sup> century); catholic churches of the 17–18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Old Town is one of the most interesting sights of Grodno.

**Lake Naroch** (170 km from Minsk). The Narochan-sky land is famous for Lake Naroch, a pearl of the Belarusian nature, and the most picturesque Blue Lakes. The beauty of Lake Naroch, its wonderful forests, golden beaches and mild climate bring thousands of tourists to the lake's shores. One third of the area of the park is covered with forests. There are 42 lakes here. The Naroch land has the largest number of pine forests in the country. The area is well-known for its mineral waters, too. The Blue Lakes have made this land really famous.

**c) Go round the classroom, telling your classmates about your place of interest.**

**d) Work in pairs. Answer the questions: *If you decide to travel round Belarus, where will you go? Why?***