

Daniel's First Trip to the Airport

by Elizabeth Trach

Daniel's family was going to visit his grandmother in Ireland. That meant taking a long airplane ride across the ocean first, and Daniel was very excited. He looked out the car window and saw an airplane take off on the runway. It looked small.

"Why are we so far away from the airplanes?" Daniel asked.

"We have to park the car first. The parking lot is far away so the cars don't get in the way of the planes," said Dad.

Daniel and his father got out of the car. Daniel carried his backpack, and his father pulled a suitcase with wheels. They walked across the large parking lots to a bench surrounded by glass walls. Daniel sat down. "Now what?" he asked.

"Now we wait for the shuttle bus to take us to the airport," said Dad.

When the bus came, Daniel was surprised that it was white instead of yellow. The bus was smaller than his school bus at home, and there were special seats on it for suitcases. When the bus was full, the driver closed the door and turned the bus onto a busy road.

"Does the bus take us right to our plane?" Daniel asked.

"No," said Dad. "First we have to go to the airport and go through security."

"What's security?" asked Daniel.

"Security means safety. There are guards who will use a special machine to see inside our suitcases to make sure we aren't bringing anything dangerous on the airplane," said Dad.

When they got to the airport, the security line was long. To stay busy, Daniel looked at the people around him. They spoke many languages he had never heard before.

Finally, Dad put the bags in a tray that slid away into the machine. "Come on," he said. Dad led Daniel to a security guard who waved a plastic wand all around Daniel's body.

"Is it magic?" he asked.

The security guard laughed. "It's just looking for metal, but you don't have any. Have a nice trip!"

Dad handed Daniel his backpack again. "Now we're ready to go to the airplane," he said. They walked down a long hallway until they found a spot with many chairs. Daniel could see the airplane through the large glass wall.

It was very big.

Daniel smiled. Soon he would be sitting on that plane and flying high in the sky.

Questions

1. Where is Daniel going?
2. How is the shuttle bus different from Daniel's school bus?
3. According to the story, what does the word *security* mean?
4. If you could take an airplane trip today, where would you go? Why?

This passage includes words that students should learn to recognize on sight. We've highlighted 12 of these words below, from the Dolch sight word list for Pre-K through 1st, 2nd and/or 3rd grade. Tip: Read through the passage once with your student. Read a second time, but pause on the sight word and ask your student to say the word.

Sight Word List

1. away
2. come
3. down
4. look
5. have
6. fly
7. found
8. many
9. small
10. never
11. why
12. chair

Print and cut-out the flash cards below. Show each sight word to your student and ask them to say the word.

away

come

down

look

have

fly

found

many

small

never

why

chair