



## Get There by Air



Image courtesy TSA

### Mini Fact:

You might be surprised to learn that pilots and flight crews also have to go through security before boarding a plane.

Will you be traveling for the holidays? If you're flying from one city to another, knowing what to expect and how to behave at the airport and on the plane will make your trip smoother.

### Getting ready to go

Preparing for a trip takes a lot of work! You can help your family by thinking ahead about what you'll need while you're gone.

Make a list of the things you want to take on the airplane. You can carry them in a backpack or tote bag. Make sure your **carry-on bag** is light enough that you can carry it comfortably. Your list might include:

- books to read or puzzles to do
- a handheld video game player and games
- a favorite stuffed animal
- music player
- playing cards
- snacks
- art supplies
- a camera

### At the airport

When you arrive at the airport, you may need to check in at the airline desk.

Your family will need to show their IDs and may check larger bags, which means they'll be stowed in the luggage compartment of the plane.

Next, you and other passengers will go through a **security screening**.

In the United States, security at airports is managed by the Transportation

Security Administration, or TSA. TSA officers take several steps to make sure no dangerous items are allowed on the plane.

1. A TSA officer will look at your parents' IDs and **boarding passes**. They might ask you your name. They are just trying to be friendly, not scary.

2. Next, your family may be asked to remove bags, coats, jewelry and keys and put them in a bin on a conveyor belt. The bin goes into an **X-ray machine**, where an



Shoes and computers are two items that have to be X-rayed during a security screening.

officer can see a picture on a monitor of what's inside. If he or she can't see what something is, another officer may search the item by hand.

3. You and your family will be asked to walk through a **metal detector**. Some airports use **advanced imaging technology**, or AIT, in which you stand while an officer looks at an image on a screen.

4. After the screening, you can pick up your belongings and walk to the gate where your plane will park.

In some airports, you may see officers with dogs. These dogs are specially trained to detect explosives in bags and packages. They help the TSA keep passengers safe.

### On the plane

When it's time to board, passengers will line up as the gate agents call their row or group numbers. Even if you're excited, be patient and wait for your number to be called.

Boarding is sometimes slow because people are finding their seats and stowing belongings in the overhead bins.

When you find your seat, make sure you have the things you'll want during the flight under the seat in front of you. Take out just one thing at a time, and put it away when you're finished with it.

Sit quietly in your seat, and keep your seatbelt buckled all the time.



Image by Frans Perrecoen

Listen to the flight attendants explain about safety precautions on the plane.

As the flight gets underway, remember to speak quietly. Don't kick the seat in front of you. If you can, look out the window at the sights below you and the clouds nearby. Enjoy your trip!

## Resources



### On the Web:

- [youtu.be/IHjIN5lzCjM](http://youtu.be/IHjIN5lzCjM)

### At the library:

- "The Airport Book" by Lisa Brown
- "Everything Goes: In the Air" by Brian Biggs

## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of airports are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



AIRPLANE, AIRPORT,  
BACKPACK, BAG,  
BOARDING, CHECK,  
DETECTOR, DOGS, GATE,  
HOLIDAYS, LUGGAGE,  
METAL, OFFICER, PASS,  
PASSENGER, SAFETY,  
SCREENING, SEAT,  
SECURITY, TRAVEL, X-RAY.

C C H E C K X R O T C E T E D  
L E T A G R E C I F F O U S R  
A S W O A I R P L A N E Y A X  
T S B A C K P A C K L D T F T  
E A G N I N E E R C S O I E R  
M P I T R O P R I A N G R T A  
U R E G N E S S A P Y S U Y V  
E G A G G U L G A B A E C S E  
S Y A D I L O H C Y R A E M L  
E I G N I D R A O B X T S Y C

## Cook's Corner

### Mac 'n' Cheese 'n' Peas

#### You'll need:

- 6 cups water
- 1 (7.25-ounce) package macaroni-and-cheese dinner mix
- 1 (12-ounce) package frozen peas
- 1/4 cup reduced-fat milk
- 1/3 cup light sour cream

- 1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt
- pinch of pepper
- 1 1/2 cups chopped chicken or turkey (cooked)



\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

#### What to do:

1. Bring water to boil in a large saucepan. Add macaroni and peas, reserving the cheese sauce packet.
2. Return to a boil, then cover, reduce heat and simmer for 8 minutes.
3. Drain macaroni and peas. Stir in milk, sour cream, spices and cheese sauce packet.
4. Add chopped turkey or chicken. Heat through for 5 minutes before serving. Serves 6.

## Puzzling

Unscramble the words below that remind us of travel.



iratn \_\_\_\_\_  
istvi \_\_\_\_\_  
elpxroe \_\_\_\_\_  
antvaio \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: train, visit, explore, vacation.

## Mini Jokes



T.J.: When is it fun to serve a rubber turkey?

Tara: For Pranksgiving!

Kayla: Can you name a key that can't open a lock?

Karl: A turkey!

## Eco Note



A 100-watt incandescent light bulb that's on for half a day, every day, for a year uses enough electricity to burn almost 400 pounds of coal. Turn your lights out when you're not using them. Use daylight — sit near a window to read. Use energy-saving compact fluorescent or LED light bulbs.

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## For later:

With your family or friends, plan a pretend trip. What kind of transportation will you use? Where will you stay? How long will you be gone?

## Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: [bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching\\_guides.html](http://bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html)

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