



The Mini Page

Issue 45, 2018

Founded by Betty Debnam

Next Week:
Giving back

Holiday Travel



Mini Fact:

Look at this U.S. map. Color the states you will travel through (or fly over) to reach your destination.

Will your family travel away from home for Thanksgiving? Many people drive or fly to see family members during this special holiday.

This week, The Mini Page gives you some tips on how to be a good traveler and a courteous guest.

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 in the car or on the airplane. Your list might include:

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

Be a good traveler

Most people travel by car during the holidays. But the number of people flying increases by about 50 percent.

Whether you're driving or flying, traveling at the holidays can be stressful for adults. You can help by following these tips:

At the airport:

- Stay close to your parents. Listen to their instructions about going through security and boarding the plane.
- Keep your toys and other items in your bag. Take out just one thing at a time, and put it away when you're finished with it.

- Play or read quietly while you're waiting.

- Be patient! Lines can be long at airports, especially during holiday travel times.

In the car:

- Experts agree that kids are safest when riding in the back seat. Make sure you're using a child safety seat or seatbelt that's right for your size.

- Keep your bag of toys and games nearby so that you can reach it without help. When you pull out something new, put away whatever you've been using.

- Talk quietly so you won't bother the driver.
- Listen to music or video games through headphones so the driver won't be distracted. Remember to keep the volume low.

At the hotel:

If you'll stay in a hotel or motel while you're traveling, remember these ideas for being a considerate guest:

- Shhhhhhh! Hotel and motel walls can be thin, and some people are trying to sleep. Be quiet when you're in the hallways. Don't jump on the beds or the floor in your room. Use soft voices when talking or playing.

- Stay with a parent. Don't leave your room without your parents' permission.

- Close doors carefully instead of letting them slam.



Photo by Dmitry Soyak on Unsplash

Visiting manners

Family and friends will be happy to see you at the holidays. They may want to hear about what you're doing in school, sports you're playing and your friends at home.

To help you answer family members' questions, you might:

- bring along some work you've done at school. Artwork or special projects are interesting for grandparents or aunts and uncles to see. The subjects you study today may be different from what they remember from their school days.

- show a team picture or some action shots from sports you play.

- bring a program from a musical performance you took part in. Tell about the pieces you sang or played, whether you liked them, and if they were hard to learn.

- describe your teachers. Tell what you like about them.

Be a good guest

Make sure you are a good guest in someone else's home.

- Keep toys, books and clothes picked up. When the house is crowded, these things can be in the way.

- Make your bed. This will make your area tidier.

- Keep your things together in the bathroom. Wipe up spills.

- Use quiet voices, and be considerate of others who are trying to sleep or read.



Photo by fuji dreams

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPmanners

Try 'n' Find

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

AIRPORT, ARTWORK, CAR, CONSIDERATE, DRIVE, FAMILY, FLY, FRIENDS, GUEST, HOLIDAY, HOME, HOTEL, MANNERS, PICTURES, PLAN, SECURITY, THANKSGIVING, TRAVEL, VISIT.

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



Cook's Corner

Pumpkin Spice Cake

You'll need:

- 1 (18-ounce) package spice cake mix
- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin
- 3 eggs

- 1/3 cup canola oil
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/3 cup water



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

What to do:

1. Combine the cake mix, pumpkin, eggs, oil, cinnamon and water in a large bowl.
2. Set a mixer on the medium setting to blend the mixture well for 2 minutes.
3. Pour the batter into 9-by-13-inch greased baking pan.
4. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.
5. Top with frosting of your choice or serve with cinnamon ice cream. Serves 8.

Mini Jokes



Tonya: When is it fun to serve a rubber turkey?
Paula: For Pranksgiving!

Eco Note



Squirrels are driving New England farmers nutty this year. Their boom in population was probably caused by a bumper crop of acorns and other foods, and now they're gnawing farmers' pumpkins, apples and corn. Often, they take only one bite and move on, but farmers say one bite is all it takes to ruin a piece of fruit. One orchard owner in Standish, Maine, told reporters, "It's the worst I've ever seen."

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For later:

Together with your family, make a plan for your holiday travels. Work out what toys and games you'll take, and ask how you can help out while you're visiting.

Teachers: For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bit.ly/MPstandards. And follow The Mini Page on Facebook!



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1. Large numbers of people in one place (6-letter plural noun)
[][][][][][]

2. Documents that show a cost paid (7-letter plural noun)
[][][][][][][]

3. State of air; clear/stormy, warm/cold, wet/dry (7-letter noun)
[][][][][][][]

4. Rectangular case used to carry clothes when one travels (8-letter noun)
[][][][][][][][]

1. When there are _____, people often bump into each other.
2. Mr. Castillo bought five _____ for the bus for his family.
3. Marcel learned the _____ today will be snowy.
4. Karen packed her _____ the night before her trip.

ROOTONYM®

by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: crowds, tickets, weather, suitcase.