



Carol's Club

Custom Social Stories™ Resources
Created by Carol Gray for Members



Caregiver's Guide to Social Stories About Air Travel

A special thanks to Carol's Club member, Jane@ABC, for her request and our subsequent conversations that led to the development of this project. Jane is not alone with her concerns related to travel during Spring Break - and her son's fear of unfamiliar toilets "took me back" to my own experiences with a few of my former students.

Spring Break is just around the corner! Jane@ABC is anticipating a trip to Florida alongside concerns about her son's resistance to using unfamiliar toilets. The result is this project with three sample Stories to ease air travel. I created the Stories on PowerPoint and saved each as a PDF.

1. How People Fly in Airplanes

Every person who flies has a first flight. Knowing what to expect is helpful - having it in writing makes the information tangible. *How People Fly in Airplanes* is a look at the steps to taking a flight.

Review the Story a few times before the travel day. On the day of the flight, ask, "Who knows what's next?" at the conclusion of each step to increase a child's sense of control and thus, comfort, with the travel experience.

2. Waiting to Fly

I'm traveled well over a million miles on Delta Air Lines. I have yet to take a flight where I didn't have to wait now and then. It's inevitable. *Waiting to Fly* is a Story that I wrote long ago - I've reworked it to lighten the background and mood of this positively stated "bad news" Story.

3. Learning About Toilets in Airplanes

Each word represents a concept, and concepts can elude a child with autism. This Story builds an understanding of "toilet" and depicts several toilets in a variety of contexts. Their common purpose - people use toilets to safely pee and poop - is where their similarity lies despite the many variations in physical details. To lessen anxiety, a fictional character, Emma is used to allow the Story audience to watch and learn from her.

*I wish each of you a warm, safe, and fun spring - wherever it takes you!
Thank you for being a part of Carol's Club.*