



DETROIT METRO • WILLOW RUN
WAYNE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY



AutismAlliance
of Michigan

ON-BOARD with AUTISM





ON-BOARD with Autism Table of Contents

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Airplane Rules



Airports are busy places! If I need help, I can ask a police officer or someone wearing a TSA uniform.



I will practice calling my parents before I get to the airport. I can call my mom and dad on the phone if I need anything. I can also ask an airport worker to call them for me.

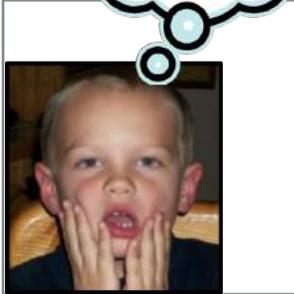


I will stay next to my parents at all times. I will only walk. Running is not allowed. I will not climb on anything unless my parents say it is okay.



If I need to use the bathroom I will ask my parents. They will help me find the bathroom. Airports are busy and have new smells and sounds. If I need a break, I will ask my parents. They will help me find a quiet place.

Getting Ready



I am getting ready to take a trip on an airplane! I might be a little nervous, or excited! My mom and dad will help me pack a suit case. There is so much to do!



I may want to bring ear plugs or noise-cancelling head phones. There are many loud noises at the airport!



There are many times at the airport when I need to wait. I may want to bring something to keep me busy while I wait, like a book, tablet, game, or favorite toy. I may want to bring a timer so I know how long to wait.



While the airplane is taking off or landing, it might bother my ears. I may want to bring gum or hard candy to help me during take off or landing.

Getting to the Airport



When we get to the airport, we may have to park far away in a parking structure and walk to the terminal.



We may have to park in an outdoor parking lot far away from the terminal and take a shuttle to the terminal.



If we take a shuttle to the terminal, we may have to wait for the shuttle, or wait for other people to get on the shuttle.



When we get to the terminal, I will see a BIG building with a lot of cars. We will go through the doors to check in.

Checking In



The airport is a busy place! It is important for me to stay close to my parents. I can hold hands with my parents.



We can look at the airport directory for information about where things are. We will look for the check-in counter for the airline we are flying.



We may have to wait in a long line to get to the check-in counter. When we get to the front of the line, someone will greet us. I can say, "hello!".



At the check-in counter, the airport worker will take our big bags and check them in. They will be on the airplane, but I will not see them until I get to my destination!

Security Check



After we check in, we will get in line to go through security. I may have to wait in a long line! It is important to stay with my parents and keep my hands to myself.



When I get to the front of the security line, I will have to take off my shoes and coat. I will put my shoes, coat, and small bags on a conveyor belt to go through an x-ray machine.



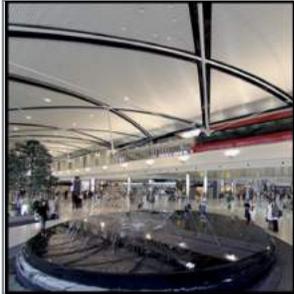
When it is my turn, I will walk through a machine that looks like an open door. If the machine beeps, a security guard might want to check to make sure I am safe. My parents will be with me, so it is okay.



When I get to the other side, I will put my shoes back on and collect my things.



Getting to my Gate



After we go through security, we will need to walk to our gate. It may be a long walk! I will stay close to my parents. If I see a fountain, I can look and tell my parents its cool! I will not get in or climb it on it.



On my way to the gate I may ride a tram, or go through a tunnel. The tunnel has many colored lights and music. If it bothers me, I can wear headphones.



I may ride up or down on an escalator. I will need to stand still and hold on to the rail on the side. There are stairs I can use if the escalator bothers me.



When I get to my gate, I will find an empty seat to wait in. I may have to wait a long time. This is a good time to read my book, use my tablet, or play with my toy.

Boarding the Plane



When it is time to get on the airplane, I will go through this tunnel to get to the plane.



The airport workers will let us know when it is time to get in line to board the airplane. I will wait patiently with my parents until it is our turn.



I will walk down a long tunnel with my parents to get to the airplane. I will wait my turn to get on the plane.



If I need help finding my seat, I can ask a flight attendant or the pilot when I get on the airplane.

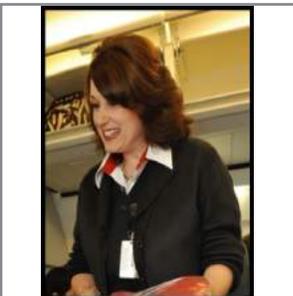
On the Plane



When I get on the airplane I will need to be quiet and put my bags away in a drawer above my seat. I will need to find my seat quickly so others can sit down as well.



I will sit down and buckle my seat belt. I will talk in a quiet voice.



Once everyone is sitting, the flight attendants will explain the rules for the flight. I will listen carefully and follow the rules. I will ask the flight attendant if I need help.



When the plane is getting ready to take off, I will need to turn off electronics. When the plane takes off it may bother my ears. I can chew gum or wear noise-cancelling headphones while the airplane takes off.

In Flight



As we take off, my electronics must be turned off. After the flight attendant says it is okay, I can turn on my tablet, games, or iPod.



During the flight I may need to use the bathroom. I will wait until the bathroom is empty, then walk to the bathroom. The bathroom is small, and may make noises I am not used to when I flush or use the faucet.



When the airplane is getting ready to land, a flight attendant will remind me to buckle my seat belt, and turn off electronics again. I will stay in my seat until the flight attendant tells me it is okay to get up.



I may see my destination from the window as we are landing. I am excited to see the new airport when we get off the airplane! I am excited to fly in an airplane again soon!