

Bearplane!

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Family, Transportation, Travel

Book Brief: A little bear packs their bags and heads to the airport with their grown-up for their first flight. The two move through all the areas of the airport as they head towards their gate and take-off for a special trip to visit Granny.

Author:
Deborah Underwood

Illustrator:
Sam Wedelich



TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Read the title of the book and look at the cover. Ask, "What do you think a 'bearplane' is? Why do you think this book is called *Bearplane*?" Have students share what they see on the cover.

Picture Walk: Flip through some pages and have students share what they see happening in the book. Ask, "What do

you think the little bear is going to do in the story?"

Vocabulary: Review these transportation words using the Picture Vocabulary Cards: airplane, bus, car

Purpose for Reading: "In this book the little bear is going to fly on a bearplane! Let's take a look at all of the things the little bear has to do before, during, and after the flight."

WHILE WE READ

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (LEVELS 1-4)

Throughout the story, pause and ask...

- **Level 1:** "Do you see any vehicles or airplanes in this picture? Describe it or point to it."
- **Level 2:** "Where is the little bear in the picture? What is the little bear doing?"
- **Level 3:** "Why is little bear doing that? Have you ever done things like the little bear?"
- **Level 4:** "What do you think will happen next in the story? What will the little bear do now that they've reached where they are going? How will they get home?"

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Say, "This book helped us learn about all of the different things that happen when you fly on an airplane. There are many steps before, during, and after you take a flight."

Extending Thinking: Ask, "Have you ever taken a trip on an airplane before? What was it like? If you've never been on an airplane before, what do you think it would be like?"

BOOK ACTIVITY:

A Trip to the Airport

Materials: Paper for signs and tickets, shelving and/or tables, chairs, nametags, old bags or luggage, dramatic play clothes, other dramatic play items

Use materials in your classroom to turn your dramatic play into an airport. Tables or shelves can serve as ticket counters and security checkpoints. Create a baggage x-ray machine out of a cardboard

box and streamers or strips with duct tape. Chairs can be arranged to create waiting areas or airplanes to board. Have clothes and bags to be packed. Create signs and have paper and writing utensils to create tickets. What else is at an airport? Have the students brainstorm more ideas and participate in creating items to use. Up, up, and away!