

Angela's Airplane

by Robert Munsch



- **Things to get ready:**

1. Reproduce the art sheet for each child and make one for yourself.
2. Locate other books about planes or flying and have them set up in your library corner. (*see Related Books section*)

- **Getting the children ready to listen:**

To get the children ready to listen, tell them that the story you are going to read has an airplane in it. Teach the poem with the movements. Repeat several times, saying it slowly enough that the students can join in with the words by the last repetition.

The Airplane

The airplane has big wide wings.

(stretch out arms)

Its propeller spins around and sings.

(make one arm go around)

Vvvvvvvv!

(make the sound)

The airplane goes up in the sky.

(lift arms up and then down)

Then down it goes, just see it fly!

Vvvvvvvv!

(make the sound)

Up, up, and up; down, down, and down;

(make continuous up/down movements)

Over every housetop in our town.

Vvvvvvvv!

(make the sound)

- **Read-Aloud Guide**

BEFORE you read the book:

1. Ask the children to raise their hand if they have ever ridden on an airplane. Invite a few to share a comment.
2. Remind them about the poem you have just shared and show them the cover of the book.
3. Ask them if they see anything unusual in the picture.
(a little girl in the cockpit who looks scared, or similar response)
4. Tell them her name is Angela and read the title, author and illustrator. Invite them to listen to what happens when Angela is very curious.

DURING reading:

1. After you read the first page, stop. Ask them what the problem is. *(Angela's father got lost)*
2. Ask the children to predict what they think Angela will do. *(in the picture, Angela looks like she might get on the plane)*
3. On the pages where Angela asks questions such as "Don't you think it's okay if I push just *one* button?" turn to the children and raise your eyebrows and ask for their responses before you continue reading. If they say yes, ask why. If they say no, ask why.
4. Direct their attention to the illustration as you continue, which shows Angela pushing the buttons.
(Hopefully they will have already noticed this.)
5. On the page before the last page where Angela promises never to fly another airplane, stop and ask the children how they think the story will end. *(Have 3-4 students predict the ending.)*
6. Read the last page.

AFTER reading:

1. Have students share their reactions. Were they surprised? Were anyone's predictions right?
2. Why do they think Angela becomes an airplane pilot when she had a crash in an airplane when she was little (Hopefully they will mention some of these ideas or others: she is brave, she is curious, she likes all the buttons and wants to learn how to use them.)

- **Extension Activity**

Show them the picture of Angela. Say, "Remember when Angela said, "Yikes." That's what it says here. Tell them the big circle is called a *speech bubble* or a *cartoon bubble*. The words inside are what Angela is saying. (*Point to the part that points to her mouth.*) Read them what Angela is saying and make your voice stop suddenly at the end to show that what she is saying is not finished. Ask them to think about what Angela should do. Tell them they will color Angela and you will come around and write what they want Angela to say. After you have written the dictation, have each child "read" it back with you. Praise their work. They are "writers." Do one of the sheets yourself! Take time to share your work in a sharing time. Encourage each child to share their work with their families.

- **Related Books**

I Fly

by Anne Rockwell

In The Driver's Seat

by Max Haynes

First Flight

by David McPhail

Amelia's Fantastic Flight

by Rose Bursik

Angela's Airplane