AVA TRAVELS™ Kids



Ava Travels with Sunny

A gentle story about a working service dog and traveling as a team.



Meet Sunny

Ava was traveling with Mom and Sunny. Sunny was her service dog. He had learned a special job to help Ava. Mom held his leash. Ava held Wings. They looked at their travel plan.



A team gets ready

Before the trip, Mom had checked the airline’s rules and forms. At the airport, she asked where Sunny could have a toilet break. Ava waited with Mom. Dogs have needs too.



Sunny has a job

Sometimes, when Ava felt upset, she kept rubbing her hands. Sunny was trained to touch her hand with his nose on Mom’s cue. His gentle nudge helped Ava pause and notice that Mom was there to help.



A little nudge

The gate felt busy. Ava began rubbing her hands. Mom gave Sunny his cue. His nose touched Ava’s hand. “I need a break,” Ava told Mom. “Let’s sit together,” Mom said.



A hello from far away

A child saw Sunny. “Can I pet him?” the child asked. “He is working right now,” Mom said. “You can wave to us.” The child waved. Ava waved back. Sunny stayed beside Mom.



Let Sunny work

“Please do not feed him,” Mom said. “He needs to watch and listen to our team.” Ava knew Sunny was helping her. She did not need to tell the other child everything about herself.



A place for Sunny

On the airplane, Mom helped Sunny settle in the space at their feet. He stayed out of the aisle. Ava and Mom buckled their seat belts. Sunny rested on the floor, not on a passenger seat.



Our travel team

Ava looked at Mom, Sunny, and Wings. Her team was ready. Sunny had his job. Mom helped with the travel steps. Ava could say what she needed. Other children’s travel teams could look different from hers.

I can ask for help. My team can help me.

For grown-ups

Sunny is a trained service dog, not an emotional support animal or an airport therapy dog. Service dogs perform disability-related tasks. Not every autistic child needs or uses one. Check airline forms, seating, animal-relief locations, and destination requirements before travel.