

At the airport

Although lots of his friends have been on aeroplanes before, Tom has never travelled anywhere by air. He was so excited about his first flight that he wrote down in his diary exactly what happened.

Once we had parked we walked in through the big glass doors of the airport. There were lots of people standing in lots of queues so we had to find the right queue to stand in.

The first thing we had to do was to check in our baggage. I have my own suitcase but it's small enough to fit on the plane so all we had to check in was Mum's great big one. I don't know what she puts in it!

After that we had to queue at the departure gate. When we got to the front of the queue we had to put our plastic water bottles into a big bin. I had to take off my belt and my glasses and I had to take the coins out of my pocket. I had to put all these things in a tray. The tray and my suitcase went along a conveyer belt so they could be checked.

Mum had to put her things in a tray as well, then we had to go through a big metal gate one at a time. I got through all right but the gate beeped when Mum went through. A lady patted Mum all over then spotted that Mum still had her necklace on so Mum had to take it off and go back through the gate again.

I got my stuff back from the people who checked it. They seemed quite happy with it.

Me and Mum went and had a look in the shops. I wanted to buy a big bag of sweets and we had to show the cashier my boarding pass when I bought it.

I kept checking the flashing signs to see if our plane was due to depart. Suddenly it showed up: Flight to Alicante. Now boarding. Gate 3.

We rushed to Gate 3 but we didn't need to rush because we found another queue! We queued to get on the plane then we found two seats together quite near the front. Mum lifted my suitcase and her hand luggage into the overhead locker.

We were ready to go and I was very excited.