Dear Parents and Teachers,

On behalf of Van Nuys Airport (VNY), I want to thank you for taking the time to visit with us. We have developed this activity book to introduce students to the exciting world of aviation.

For most people, only pilots and flight attendants come to mind when they think of airports. However, there are countless careers in the field of aviation, including air traffic controllers, mechanics, engineers, accountants, police officers, marketing professionals, operations staff and many more.

As a general aviation airport, VNY is dedicated to introducing children to the joys of travel, the important role transportation plays in our lives and the aviation industry.

If you have questions or would like to schedule a tour, please contact the Public and Community Relations Department at 818-442-6526. We hope your student enjoys the journey as we take flight!

Sincerely,

Diana M. Sanchez
Public & Community Relations Director
Van Nuys Airport
Airplanes have many parts that you can see from the outside. They also have interesting names. Try to name Vinny’s parts.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8.
Take a flight from Van Nuys Airport up through the clouds.
Take a flying trip from letter to letter. Can you find “VAN NUYS AIRPORT”? 
Here is a word puzzle.
Fill in the blanks below with the letters found in the arrow.

1. The building where airplanes are kept.
2. The city in which this airport is located.
3. The propeller makes a very strong _____.
4. The airplanes land and take off here.
5. These trucks are used to help in all kinds of emergencies.
6. The place from which aircraft operate.
7. It can take off straight up!
8. Airplanes have at least two of these.

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Van Nuys Airport is one of the busiest

GENERAL __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

airports in the world!
Can you find these words?

PILOT  TRANSPORT  HELICOPTER  VAN NUYS  MECHANIC
TRANSPORT  PROPELLER  STUDENT  RUDDER  ENGINE
LANDING  AIRPORT  TAKEOFF  HANGAR
HOTEL  AVIATION  TOWER  TAXIWAY
Biplane  RUNWAY  JET  WINGS
Have a Heart!

Many aircraft at Van Nuys Airport are used to help sick people. Some of them fly sick or injured people to far away hospitals. These aircraft are also used to pick up and deliver important organs used in transplant operations. Can you guide the pilot to the HEART? Here's the flight plan. Find your way to the heart using only words that can be made from the letters in the words "The Airport."
Can you help guide the water dropping helicopter to the forest fire?

There are a lot of helicopters at Van Nuys Airport. Many of them are owned by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department. Some hold large amounts of water which can be dropped on burning hillsides when they catch fire. This is especially helpful during the dry months. Can you think of other uses for the helicopters at Van Nuys Airport?
Here is a crossword puzzle for you to solve.

ACROSS
1. What can fly and rhymes with met?
2. What city is this airport in?
3. What looks like cotton in the sky?
4. What can fly and rhymes with cane?
5. Where does an airplane fly?
6. What do airplanes and birds need to fly?
7. What can fly and drops water on fires?

DOWN
1. What makes airplanes and cars run?
2. What can fly and rhymes with nerd?
3. Who repairs an airplane?
4. What does an airplane land on?
5. What is worn in an airplane for safety?
6. What does Vinny enjoy most?
7. Who flies airplanes?
Can you match the picture to the description?

1. ___ is used by big companies to fly important people.
2. ___ is often used to rescue animals or put out forest fires.
3. ___ is the person on the ground who helps pilots find their way.
4. ___ is the long strip of concrete where airplanes take off and land.
5. ___ is the kind of airplane that has two propellers.
6. ___ is used in the case of an airport emergency.
7. ___ are the people who help keep the airport safe.
8. ___ is the part of the airplane where the pilot sits.
9. ___ is the person who makes sure everything is working properly.
Everyone is an artist!

Get out your sharp pencil. Make sure you have an eraser too. (You might want to change your mind.) Using the grid as a guide, draw Vinny. When you have finished, you might want to use colored pencils or crayons to color it. Maybe you’ll be an airplane designer some day.
What’s the secret word?  

This is the pilot’s alphabet. Can you spell your name?

Example:

AMY

A  Alpha (al-fah)
B  Bravo (brah-voh)
C  Charlie (char-lee)
D  Delta (dell-tah)
E  Echo (eck-oh)
F  Foxtrot (foks-trot)
G  Golf (golf)
H  Hotel (hoh-tel)
I  India (in-dee-ah)
J  Juliet (jew-lee-ett)
K  Kilo (kee-loh)
L  Lima (lee-mah)
M  Mike (mike)
N  November (no-vem-ber)
O  Oscar (oss-car)
P  Papa (pah-pah)
Q  Quebec (keh-beck)
R  Romeo (row-me-oh)
S  Sierra (see-air-rah)
T  Tango (tang-go)
U  Uniform (you-nee-form)
V  Victor (vic-ter)
W  Whiskey (wiss-key)
X  X-ray (ecks-ray)
Y  Yankee (yang-key)
Z  Zulu (zoo-loo)

When you tilt the paper away from you and look from the bottom of the page, the secret word appears.
How can airplanes fly?

In order for an airplane to overcome the Earth's gravity and rise into the air, it must be acted upon by a lift force. This is supplied mainly by the airplane's wings. The wings are built in a way that causes the air to flow further and more rapidly past the top of the wing than it does the bottom of the wing. As a result, the pressure (force) below the wing is greater than the top. This "pushes" the airplane up into the air. This is the lift force needed to overcome the gravity of the Earth.

How do pilots make the plane go up and down?

On the tail of the airplane are things called "elevators." From inside the cockpit the pilot can make these move up or down. If the elevators are moved up, the plane goes down. And if the elevators are moved down, the plane goes up.

How do pilots make the airplane turn to the right or to the left?

At the very end of the airplane is the "tail," like on a dog or cat. But this tail is very different...and very important. The "rudder" is located within the tail. It swings from side to side. If the pilot wants to turn left, he moves the rudder to the left. If he wants to turn to the right, he moves the rudder to the right.

Okay, but what makes the plane go forward?

We thought you'd never ask. The plane moves forward because of the "thrust" supplied by the propellers or jet engines. Airplanes are built to be very "sleek" in order to reduce as much "drag" as possible and cut through the air.
Solutions

Page 1
1. Propeller
2. Cockpit
3. Rudder
4. Fuselage
5. Flaps
6. Ailerons
7. Landing Gear
8. Wing

Page 4

Hangar
Vannuys
Wind
Runway
Fire Truck
Airport
Helicopter
Wings

Van Nuys Airport is the busiest
General Aviation
airport in the world!

Page 5

Page 2

Page 3

Page 6

Page 7

Page 8

Page 9
1. - b, Corporate Jet
2. - h, Helicopter
3. - a, Air Traffic Controller
4. - c, Runway
5. - f, Twin (2) Engine Aircraft
6. - d, Fire Truck
7. - e, Airport Police
8. - g, Cockpit
9. - i, Aircraft Mechanic

Page 11 = Runway