

Staying Together in Queues and Crowds

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The latest version of this Social Story and additional stories, as well as a mobile-friendly version,
can be found on ACT– Autism Community Training's website:

www.actcommunity.ca/resources-for-ukraine/

A Note for Caregivers

The Stories in this download are part of a larger initiative to provide Stories to help Ukrainian families as they cope, seek safety, settle at a destination, and find or return home. Caregivers are the most frequent Social Story authors. They write for their child or someone in their care. In this project, we are honored to develop genuine Social Stories for you.

A Social Story describes a personally relevant topic following a defined writing format that is clear, meaningful, patient, and physically, socially, and emotionally safe. Initially developed for children diagnosed with autism, the first Social Stories described anxiety-producing situations with personally-tailored explanations of what happens in a given situation and why. A Social Story is tangible, giving a child, adolescent, or adult carefully chosen words that point out what is relevant and important, with time to consider the information. Today, Social Stories are an internationally respected evidence-based practice.

Most, but not all, of the Stories for Ukraine will arrive as a collection. Each download contains the Main Story. It may also include a coordinating Support Story that expands on the topic or a Praise Story to affirm and applaud learned concepts and skills.

As a caregiver, use your judgment to choose and implement the Stories. You may choose to use only the Main Story. In a few days, you may decide that the Support or Praise Story may be helpful. In general, look for the most comfortable setting possible and introduce each Story one at a time. You may personalize a Story by editing it as you read. Your best guide is your knowledge of the person in your care, current situation, and instincts as the caregiver.

With our sincere respect and continuing thoughts and prayers,

Carol Gray, Siobhan Timmins, and Catherine Faherty / Team Social Stories

Staying Together in Queues and Crowds [Main Story]



My family is traveling to a safer place. Sometimes we will be in a queue. Queues happen a lot when people travel. The people in the top photo are standing in a queue.



Sometimes, people form queues to take turns doing something, like getting off of a train one-at-a-time. Kind people may be there to help.



People wait in a queue to get something that they need. There are many other reasons for queues, too.



When many people are in the same place at the same time waiting for the same thing, a queue gets very wide and long. It's a crowd and a queue, too. Each group or family in the queue has a turn to get what they need. Then the people behind them have a turn, one person, group, or family at a time.



Queues are often noisy. People talk. Babies, children, or adults may cry. Sometimes people sing or play a simple game. All the while, voices and noises start and stop.



When we travel, and especially in a noisy and crowded queue, it's important to stay close to the people traveling with me. That way, I will be able to hear their voices and they will be able to hear me. Staying close, I will be able to take their hand and they will be able to take mine. While we travel to a safer place, I will try to stay close and within an arm's reach of the people who love me.

I'm Staying Together in Queues and Crowds [Praise Story]



My family is traveling to a safer place. I've learned about queues, crowds, and staying together.



Just like me, there are many other children who know about being safe in queues and crowds, too.



Staying close is smart and safe! It's one way that I am helping my family, other people, and Ukraine! My adult is proud of me.

