



Story Guide

OUR BIG MOVE BEFORE OUR FIRST, LAST, AND ONLY VACATION

BY

Donald Davis

Watch the video of storyteller Donald Davis live at the 2019 National Storytelling Festival [here](#).
(Right click on link to open it in a new tab.) All videos include ASL interpretation.

Story run time is 00:00 - 37:35

Now, enjoy exploring the story with the activities outlined below.



explore it

- Donald says that "We do a better job when we have a good emcee." What is an emcee? How do they help the storyteller do a better job?
- Donald uses a poem as an icebreaker at the beginning of his storytelling session. What is an icebreaker? Why do you think he uses one instead of beginning the story immediately?
- Name one or two things that make you laugh in this story. Do you like having humor in a story or do you prefer more serious stories? Why?



think it

- Donald thinks Christmas and birthday presents are ruined because the family might move? Why?
- What happens while the Davis family is away from the new house at church?
- Why does the family go on vacation?
- Compare and contrast the trips to Florida and Chattanooga. Why does Donald's mother cry when they get to Chattanooga?
- At the end of the story, Donald says that the trip to Florida saved them money? How?



create it

- Donald says his family has a car that is "monkey vomit green." Give your favorite colors creative names. Share the names with a friend.
- Donald gives vivid descriptions of the kitchen and food after the chicken was left cooking during church. Illustrate this scene.
- Since there are no screens or radio in the car, the Davis family plays travel games. Which game was your favorite? Try playing it on your next road trip!



tell it

- Have you ever moved? Journal about how the move made you feel, what you miss about your old home, and what you like about your new one.
- Donald mentions life without a phone, clothes dryer, or an air conditioner. Write about what life would be like for your family, if you didn't have these modern conveniences.
- Donald's mom is a homebody. Share with your family what you like about being at home.