Episode: “A Postcard for Huggy”
Albie feels disappointed when she finds out that Huggy Pepper is going away on vacation and can’t play with her. With a visit from the mail carrier and an artist, Albie learns about postcards and even makes one herself! Missing someone can feel hard, but reaching out can help us feel more connected.

Activity

Materials:
• Thick paper like cardstock
• Ruler
• Pencil
• Scissors
• Drawing supplies
• Postage stamp

Steps:
1. Watch “A Postcard for Huggy,” where artist Mia Rosenthal makes homemade postcards. Notice the choices she makes when making her artwork.
2. Use a ruler to size your paper to 4x6 inches. Let your child hold the ruler, help draw the lines and count the inches.
3. Cut the paper down to the correct size, explaining that postcards need to be a certain size to be sent in the mail.
4. Invite your child to draw on one side of the postcard. Prompt them to think about who they’re going to send the card to and what kind of picture to draw for that person.
5. Write a message, address, return address and add a stamp to the other side of the card before taking a trip to the mailbox together!

Tips
• Did you know postcards need to be a certain size to be sent in the mail? Make sure yours is rectangular and no smaller that 3.5 x 5 inches and no bigger than 4.25 x 6 inches.
• A photograph can make for a perfect postcard template. Just write your message, address, and stamp on the back.
• Transcribe your child’s words into a message or invite them to practice their letters.
If you’d like to create a collage of cut paper or stickers on your postcard, you can cover the postcard with clear packing tape to laminate your artwork so that it can be mailed.

**In this activity, your child:**
- Measured and counted inches
- Decorated and helped write a postcard
- Thought about a person they missed, or would just like to say hello to
- Delivered or mailed a postcard to a friend or loved one

**Talk to your child! Conversation Starters:**
- Albie really misses Huggy Pepper when he is away. Have you ever missed someone before? What did that feel like?
- Why do you think making a postcard for Huggy helps Albie feel better while he’s on vacation?
- How did you decide who to send your postcard to? Did the drawing that you made have anything to do with that person?

**Keep Going!**

**Take an Imaginary Vacation**
Ask your child to imagine that they are sending a postcard from a faraway place. Maybe they visit the moon, somewhere in their favorite book or a place they’ve only seen in a picture. Invite them to send a postcard from that place. What did they do there? Who did they meet?

**Watch “Mail Team”**
There’s another *Albie’s Elevator* episode about mail! Watch “Mail Team,” and see Albie cooperating with her friends to send some mail.

**Vocabulary**
- **Postcard:** A picture with space on the other side for writing a message to send in the mail
- **Stamp:** A special sticker that must be added to a postcard or letter if you want to mail it
- **Mail carrier:** A person who delivers mail
- **Vacation:** When a person travels somewhere for fun
More At-Home Activities
Visit PBS Learning Media for more activities like this inspired by Albie’s Elevator.

Children’s Books with Related Themes
Check out these children’s books online or at your local library to continue exploring the concepts in this episode.

It Came in the Mail by Ben Clanton
A funny book about a magic mailbox and a little boy who learns that giving can be even more fun than receiving.

Yoko’s Paper Cranes by Rosemary Wells
A story about missing people who are far away.

The Day the Crayons Came Home by Oliver Jeffers
Duncan receives a set of postcards sent by his crayons who feel forgotten.