Waiting for Mom

Jim had been waiting a long time for his mother to arrive.

She would come and pick him up each day after school.

Sometimes Jim's mom would be waiting outside the school, at the curb with the motor running, when Jim came out of the school building. Other times she would be a few minutes late, but never more than ten.

It had now been more than half an hour, and Jim was getting worried. Had his mother gotten into an accident? Did she forget it was a school day? No, Jim thought, after all, she had dropped him off at school that morning.

Just then, Jim's mother pulled up. As he got in the car and closed the door, Jim's mom explained that she had taken his little sister, Susie to the doctor for an appointment. She said that his sister Susie had panicked when the nurse told her that she needed to get a scheduled vaccination. Jim said, "But mom, Susie doesn't even know what a vaccination is."

184	"I know that, honey," Jim's mom said. "It wasn't the word
196	vaccination that freaked her out. It was the sight of the needle!"
202	"Well, did she cry?" Jim asked.
213	"Yes, she was crying even before the nurse cleaned her arm
226	with rubbing alcohol. She asked me to hug her and talk to her
232	about butterfies until it was over."
238	Jim followed up, "Did that work?"
250	"Yes. It wasn't easy though. She squirmed a lot so it was
266	tough for the nurse to get the needle in the area of her arm she was
280	aiming for. But after it was done, the nurse told her that she had
292	done a great job, and that she was brave for doing it."
301	"I'm glad everything worked out okay," Jim said. "You
307	know, Mom. You're a great mom."