

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **Hello, Washington!**

Mike stopped the van in front of a tall white pointed tower.

"Wow! How tall is that?" Justin asked.

"It is 555 feet high," Mike said. "The Washington Monument is the highest stone building in the world."

"It's named for George Washington, our first President. This city is named for him, too," said Miss Lake, their teacher and leader on the trip.

"I'm sure glad were here," Lisa said.

"It was a long ride in the van," said Justin.

"Can we go clear to the top?" Amy asked.

"Yes. There's and elevator. Let's go get in line," Miss Lake told the kids.

Everybody said goodbye to Mike. It felt good to get off the van. They had been riding all day.

"Look!" Lisa said. She pointed to a ring of flags. The flags were all around the monument.

"There are fifty of them. One for each state in our United States," Miss Lake said. "Follow me."

She and the kids lined up for the elevator.

"How old is the Washington Monument?"