

# Museum of Discovery Social Story

A guide to help prepare neurodiverse individuals for a museum visit













#### About Museum of Discovery

#### Things to Do Before You Go

Take care of your personal needs:

- Make sure you have a snack and drink water before you arrive at the museum
- Make sure to bring sunglasses, phone, wallet with your ID, any fidgets, headphones, or other comfort tools
- Communicate about the visit with your family
- Prepare for social engagement
- Call ahead to ask about peak hours
- Information on the sensory map can inform you before you go about any sensory issues within the museum
- If you have a service dog, create a social script to answer questions about your dog

Plan your transportation to and from the museum

- Plan on where to park
- Find a map of the Rivermarket area in downtown Little Rock so that you can find the museum from where you park

Events sometimes happen at the museum, so check on the website or Facebook page before you visit to find out what is happening.

Museum of Discovery 500 President Clinton Ave. Ste. 150 Little Rock, AR 72201 501.396.7050 museumofdiscovery.org

#### The Museum

I am going to the Museum of Discovery today!

This is a museum where I can play with exhibits and activities and learn about science, technology, engineering, arts, and math.

When I am at the museum:

I will stay with my group or the adult I came with.

I cannot take food, drinks, or sticky things into the museum exhibits with me.





The Museum of Discovery has one entrance. It is on President Clinton Avenue facing south. There is a hotel across the street from the museum.

# Checking In

When I go inside, I will see the admissions desk where I will pay admission for a ticket or show my membership.

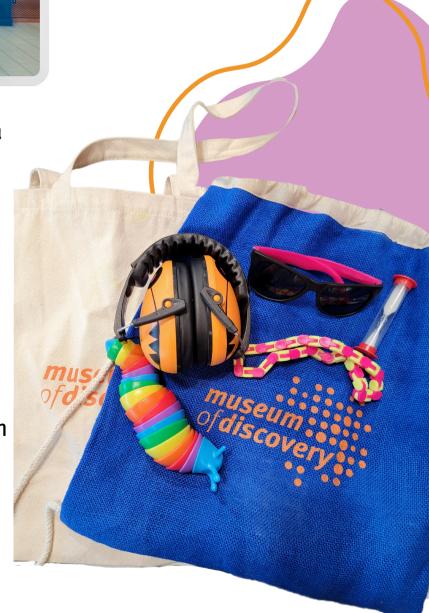


If I have any questions about admission fees, staff at the front desk can answer them for me.

At the front desk, I can ask for a backpack that has:

- headphones
- a fidget
- sunglasses
- gloves
- a timer
- sticky notes
- a sensory map of the museum

I can use these inside the museum.



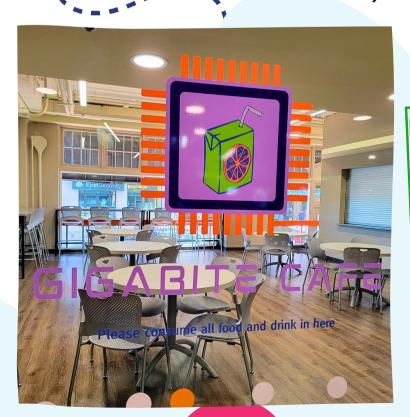
Some of the exhibits have sound, video, and light elements.

Some of the exhibits will move when I use them.

I can touch all of the exhibits. The exhibits also have information and pictures on the signs next to them so I can learn about science, technology, engineering, art, and math.

Sometimes the museum can be loud. If I want to visit a quieter area of the museum I can visit:

Great Hall
Explore Store
Gigabyte Café
PPG STEAM Studio
Sensory Cove



If I want to have a snack or drink before I go to the exhibits, I can go to the Gigabyte Café to eat.

I can buy snacks and drinks in the Explore Store.

Some of the exhibits may be crowded. When the exhibits are very crowded, I may have to wait my turn to use them.



This is the Small Fry Fish Camp exhibit on the first floor.

This area is for children 6 and under. I must have an adult with me to play here.



The museum has a demonstration theater on the first floor.

Sometimes there are science shows in the theater.

I will listen to the staff member's rules during the show.

The shows may be loud or bright.





This is the Whoosh.

The Whoosh uses air to make objects move through plastic tubes. This area can be crowded and I may have to wait for a turn.

The sound in this area can be loud.



The museum has 2 levels of exhibits. I can use the elevators or the stairs to access the different floors and exhibits of the museum.

Please remove shoes before entering the play area.

This area is designed for children ages 5–12

This is the Climber found downstairs.

I must take my shoes off and put them in the square shelves before I can play in the Climber.

Sometimes there are a lot of people in the Climber.



This is Tornado Alley Theater downstairs in the museum.

If I go into the tornado theater, the room will look like I am inside a house while a tornado happens outside.

There are sounds like a tornado that can be loud.





This is the PPG STEAM Studio.

There are activities I can try in this room. I must have an adult with me to play in here.



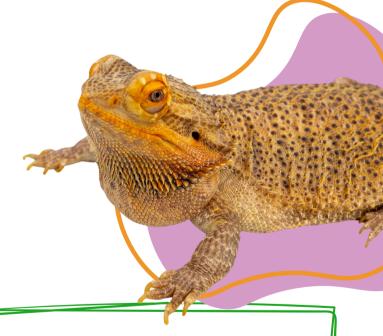
# Animals

The museum has lots of fun animals.

Sometimes the staff will bring them out so I can see them. If the staff tells me I can touch the animal, I will be gentle and use 2 fingers only.

When the animals are in their enclosures, I can look at them through the glass.





Some of the animals get scared so I will not tap on the glass by their enclosures.



# Staff

Museum staff wear blue shirts.
Volunteers wear an orange
apron.

I can ask staff or volunteers about the exhibits or they can help me if I get lost or if I need to find a quiet spot.







#### Restrooms

There are restrooms on the top and bottom floors of the museum.

The restrooms have toilets that flush by themselves. I can use sticky notes to cover the sensors.

There are also hand dryers in the restroom. The toilets and hand dryers may be loud.



Eventually, I will have to leave the museum. I will exit out the of the front of the museum.

When we leave, we will pass the Explore Store.

I will make sure I have all of my belongings when I leave.

I can keep my receipt if I plan on coming back to the museum that day.





See you next time, Museum of Discovery!

