ATTENDING THE DR. PHILLIPS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS SOCIAL STORY PICTURE BOOK
Today we’re going to the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. There are many reasons to visit the Dr. Phillips Center.
You may go with your school or with a group to see a play, a show or a musical.

Maybe your family wants to come to have a picnic on the Seneff Arts Plaza or see a concert.
You might come to the Dr. Phillips Center to take a class. You can learn music, acting or dance. The entrance to the School of Arts is on the side of the arts center and the classrooms are on the second floor. It’s fun to come to the Dr. Phillips Center for summer camp or classes.
Sometimes people have special parties at the Dr. Phillips Center — even a wedding.
The Dr. Phillips Center is in Downtown Orlando. You can get there by driving in a car and parking in the garage. Then you walk to the arts center from the garage. It’s a short walk but you do need to cross the street. Use the crosswalk and watch for cars.

If you come with a group you might get dropped off by a bus, right at the front door.

You might even take public transportation like a bus or the train.
You need a ticket to see a show. The Box Office is at the front door. Your ticket will tell you what theater to go to and where to sit.
In the lobby of the Dr. Phillips Center you can go to many different places.

There are usually a lot of people in the lobby.
There are places where you can get a snack, sandwich, cookies or drink. They are called bars and there are bars on every Tier.

A Tier is what the different levels at the Dr. Phillips Center are called.

You can use the stairs or you can take an elevator.
When you go into a theater, the usher will check your ticket and tell you where to sit. Ushers work at the Dr. Phillips Center and they are there to help you.

Before the show starts people will go to their seats. Once the performance starts we try to sit in our seats until intermission or until the show is finished.

If you need help during the show you can tell your family member, friend or teacher and they will find an usher to help you. You can always ask an usher for help.
Some shows are in the **Walt Disney Theater**. When you first go into the theater it is dark. The Walt Disney Theater is very big. The floor level is called the orchestra.

There is a mezzanine and a balcony. The mezzanine and the balcony are very high up! Some people get nervous and other people don’t mind being up high. It’s best to go slow and get used to the theater wherever you are sitting.
The performances on the stage in the Walt Disney Theater are usually musicals or ballets or concerts. The lights will change and music will play from speakers. Actors from the stage may sing and talk loudly. There will be lots of colors and sounds.
The Alexis & Jim Pugh Theater is the small theater. This theater is very bright with colorful paintings on the ceiling. It feels very different from the big Walt Disney Theater.

Sometimes when you come to this theater you will have seats on the floor level and it will be filled with people.

Sometimes the performers are right in the middle and you sit around them. It means the performers are very close.
Just like in the Walt Disney Theater, we try to stay in our seats during the show. But if you need help during the show you can tell your family member, friend or teacher and they will find an usher to help you.

Many performances have an Intermission. Intermission is a break in the middle of the show. It usually lasts about 20 minutes. It’s just enough time to take a break, use the restroom or get a drink before you go back to your seat.
If the show is *Sensory Friendly*, there might be a quiet room. If you need a break you can go to the quiet room. Even if there is not a quiet room there are plenty of places in the lobby for you to take a break.
If you need to go to the restroom, there are restrooms on every Tier. There is a family restroom on every Tier too.
When the show is over the audience claps. You can clap your hands too. It might be loud and it is okay to cover your ears.
After the actors, dancers, singers or performers take their bows the show is over. The lights come on and the audience leaves the theater. There may be lots of people leaving all at the same time.
After you leave the theater you can take your time. The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts is a beautiful place and you can enjoy being here, even after the show is finished. You can relax in a chair or you can get another drink. You can use the restroom. You can walk down the stairs. You can talk to people in the lobby about the show.
We’re so glad you want to come to the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. We hope you will have fun when you are here and that you will come again.
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