



CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY

SOCIAL STORY

UNITED HEALTH GROUP STAGE

A group of approximately 20 children and a few adults are standing in a line on a sidewalk outside a building. The building has a sign that reads "The Children's Theatre Company". To the right, there is a glass entrance with a sign that says "The Minne" and "Company". The children are wearing winter coats and hats, suggesting a cold day. The adults are also dressed in winter clothing. The scene is set in front of a modern building with large windows and a concrete facade.

The Children's Theatre Company

Theatre

I am going to see a show at Children's Theatre Company.

When I get there, I will walk up the long sidewalk to enter the building through the glass doors.



Tickets

I may have to stand in line to get my ticket for the show.



Elevator or Stairs

When I have my ticket, I will go up to the Target Lobby. I can take an elevator up to the lobby, or I can walk up the stairs.



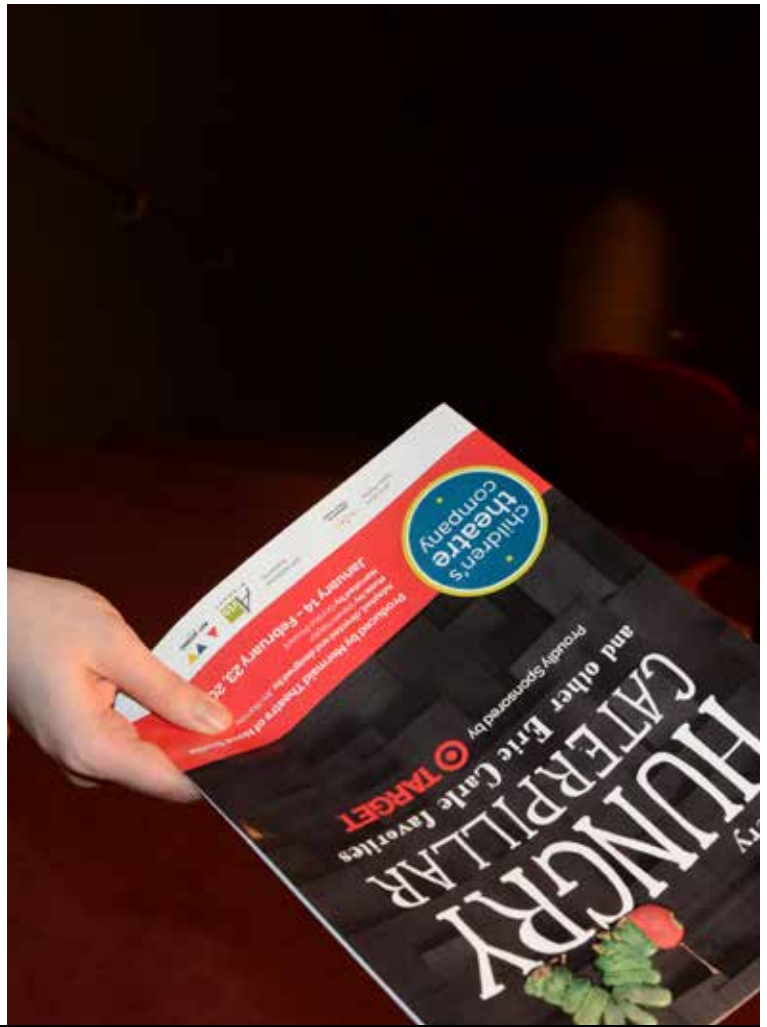
Target Lobby

In the Target Lobby, I will see a little store and an area serving concessions. I also will see benches where I can sit and rest if I want to. I can ask the adult with me if we will visit the concession area located in the lobby during our visit.



Restrooms

If I need to use the restroom before the show, I will walk down some stairs to the restrooms. After I use the restroom, I will walk back up the stairs to wait in the lobby.



Theatre Usher

When it is time to locate my seat, I will give my ticket to an usher who will tear it in half and give it back to me. The usher will tell me which way to enter the theatre to locate my seat inside.

An usher will give me a program with information related to the show.



My Seat

If I'm in the balcony, I will go up more stairs to locate my seat. If I'm on the main floor, I will go down some stairs to locate my seat.



Seat Number

The number on my ticket tells me where I have to sit. My seat folds down. I keep my feet on the floor and do not kick the seat in front of me.

Many people will come into the theatre and locate their seats while I wait for the show to begin.



The Performance

The lights dim when the show is ready to start. I may hear announcements or music.

If the show sounds are too loud, I can use ear protection or cover my ears.

I stay in my seat during the show. If I have a question, I will ask it very quietly. I can clap at the end of a performance or song.



Taking a Break

If I need to take a break, I can ask to go to the Quiet Room or back to the lobby. If I need to leave during the show, I walk quietly out of the theatre.



Intermission

Some shows have a 15 minute break called intermission. If the show I'm attending has intermission, I can remain sitting in my seat, stand up and stretch, or walk to the lobby.

Intermission is a busy, crowded time. I may have to wait in lines to leave the theatre, to enter the restroom, or to get a snack.

Ushers announce when it's time to locate my seat in the theatre again. The show will continue on stage.



Clapping

When the show is over, I can clap and cheer when the actors come out on stage to take their bows. If the clapping is too loud, I can wear ear protection or cover my ears.



Leaving

When the actors leave the stage, I wait in line to leave the theatre and go up the stairs slowly. I can remain sitting in my seat and wait for the crowd to leave the theatre, and then I will leave the theatre.

I'll walk out of the Children's Theatre Company the same way I came in. I can talk about the show as soon as the show ends.

Acknowledgements

This Children's Theatre Company social story was created in partnership with the Autism Society of Minnesota. Children's Theatre Company is committed to increasing access and inclusion for our community's children and families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders and other sensory, social, and cognitive disabilities.

Additional Pre-Visit resources are available on-line on our Sensory Friendly page: childrenstheatre.org/plan/sensory-friendly-programming

About Children's Theatre Company

Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is the only theatre for young people to win the coveted Tony® Award for Outstanding Regional Theater. Founded in 1965, CTC serves more than 250,000 people annually and is one of the 20 largest theater companies in the nation. The company is noted for defining worldwide standards for youth theatre with an innovative mix of classic tales, celebrated international productions and challenging new work.

About Autism Society of Minnesota (AuSM)

Established in 1971, the Autism Society of Minnesota (AuSM) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to education, advocacy and support designed to enhance the lives of those affected by autism from birth through retirement. www.ausm.org | 651.647.1083

