

My trip to **Sensory Time** at **Imagine** children's museum



A Social Story for Diverse Learners

An Introduction for Caregivers

This social story was created by Imagine Children's Museum to help diverse learners prepare for a visit to Sensory Time. We also have a [separate social story about visiting the entire Museum](#).

Welcome!

Tuesday - Sunday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Every Sunday, the North side of the Museum opens to the public at 11 a.m.

Check our website ImagineCM.org for up-to-date hours and information.

Sensory Time

This social story was created especially for visitors to Sensory Time, a program Imagine Children's Museum offers for children on the autism spectrum, children with sensory processing challenges, and children with other special needs, and their families.

Registration is required and space is limited. Visit our website ImagineCM.org to register to join us for Sensory Time.

- Imagine Children's Museum is located at 1502 Wall St. in downtown Everett, WA.
- Sensory Time occurs on the North side of Imagine Children's Museum on the third Sunday of every month from 9-11 a.m. After 11 a.m., the entire Museum is open to the public. You are welcome to stay and enjoy the rest of the Museum during this time. If you choose to stay, please see [our social story about visiting the entire Museum](#).
- **Parking** is available on the street (90 minute limit on weekdays) or in the pay lot behind the Museum (via Colby Ave.). Some lots are reserved; check signage.
- The **entrance** for Sensory Time is located on Wall Street.
- **Boys' and girls' restrooms** are located next to the WaterWorks exhibit on the first floor of the North (original) side of the Museum, or in the Lower Level near the Commons. These bathrooms have manual flush toilets, manual sinks and automatic hand dryers.
- To access a **gender-neutral individual restroom**, called the Drip Drop Stop, go through the gate near the Group Entrance. It has a manual flush toilet, a manual sink and an automatic hand dryer.
- Ask a staff member if you need additional support.
- The Social Story is presented in **Open Dyslexic**, a typeface/font designed to help with symptoms of dyslexia.
- Suggestions on how we can improve our museum accessibility, email us at info@imaginecm.org. We hope you enjoy your visit!

Welcome!



I am excited to visit Sensory Time at Imagine Children's Museum!

During my visit, I will see so many fun and interesting things. This story will help me have a great time!

For Sensory Time, I will enter the Museum through the doors located on Wall Street. I will stay with my grown-up while we enter the Museum.



After my grownup checks us in, I am ready to explore.

Museum Staff

If I need help finding my grown-up or if I have a question, I can ask a staff member. Staff wear purple vests or colorful shirts.



Sensory Tools

Sensory tools are available to borrow during my visit. They can help my body if it's too loud or too bright. I can ask the staff if I want to borrow one of these items. I will return them when I leave.



I need a break

I need a break



I'm ready to go home



If I feel overwhelmed or frustrated, I can take a break in P.J.'s Place or tell my grown-up I'm ready to go home. It's OK to do that. I can play at the Museum later or on another day.

Museum Rules

The museum has rules that help everyone be safe and have a good time. I will follow the rules so I can play and have fun! Others will also have fun if I'm following the rules.



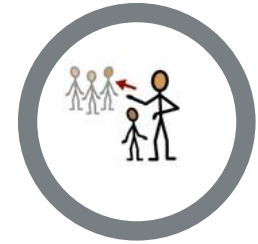
Share and
take turns



Use walking
feet



Eat and drink only
at the tables in
the Commons,
located on the
lower level



Grown-ups and
kids stay together

Sensory Symbols

Throughout this story, I will see these symbols. They help me understand what to expect in each exhibit.



This exhibit may be
bright **OR** the lights
may be off



This exhibit may be
loud



This exhibit may be
crowded

Restrooms

The restrooms on the main floor are located next to Water Works. The toilets flush manually, not automatically. The hand dryers can be noisy.



Restrooms on the Lower Level also include toilets with a manual flush and automatic hand dryers. Paper towels are available outside in the Commons.



There is also an individual restroom I can use near the Group Entrance. The hand dryer can be noisy here, too.



Toddler Area



The Museum has a toddler area for kids ages three and under. I will take off my shoes to go in this area. If I am older than three, I will need to stay out of the toddler area. Following the rules keeps everyone safe!

Everett Transit Bus



First Floor



Tickets, please! At the bus exhibit, I can pretend to be a bus driver. There is only one steering wheel so I will need to wait and take turns driving the bus.

Movie Maker Studio



First Floor



Lights, Camera, Action!

At the Movie Maker Studio, I can use different figurines like animals or dinosaurs to make a picture movie. Using the camera to take a picture might be difficult. I can ask my grown-up or a museum staff member for help.

I will need to remember to share and take turns. If other kids are in my space while I'm working on my movie, I can say: "I need space," or "No, thank you."

Recollections Room



First Floor



The Recollections Room is dark with a bright, colorful screen. I can use the movement of my body to make an image on the screen. Other kids might be in the room at the same time so we can work together to light up the screen!

There is also a drawing board in this room with special pens I can use to make a glowing picture on the wall.

Monte Cristo Railroad



First Floor

Trains, trains, and more trains! At the Monte Cristo Railroad exhibit, I can pretend to be a train conductor, watch an electric train go around the track, or push wood trains on the tracks. I will need to share and give others space at the train table. When it is time to leave, I will leave the toys there.



Airplane



First Floor

I can pretend to be a pilot or a passenger at the Airplane. There is only a pilot and co-pilot seat at the front of the plane, so I will need to wait and take turns flying the plane. Some of the buttons inside the plane make loud noises. I can use headphones if I need to.



Water Works



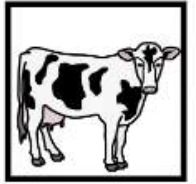
First Floor



Splish, Splash! I can watch balls float in the water or send them down a ramp. This exhibit has lots of water. I can wear a smock to help keep my clothes dry. I can use my walking feet so I don't fall. The water might have a funny smell.



Farm



First Floor



I can pretend to be a farmer at the Farm! There are pretend animals and even a tractor I can sit on. I will need to take turns riding the tractor and the horse. This exhibit can sometimes be crowded so I can remember to take a break if I need to.

Air-Mazing



First Floor



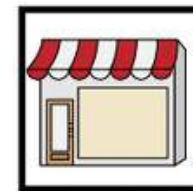
At Air-Mazing, I can send a scarf through a tube and watch it fly to the ground or try to catch it in the air. Sometimes the scarves get stuck in the tubes so I can ask a grown-up for help if I need to. It is important to know that only scarves can go in the tubes. I will need to take turns and share.



Piccolo Café



This is a make-believe restaurant where I can pretend to make food and drinks for other people. It can get crowded in this exhibit, so I will need to wait and take turns. When it is time to go, I will leave the food here.



First Floor

Socks n' Suds Laundromat



This is where I can pretend to wash and iron socks, and sort them by pattern, size and color. I can also hang them on a clothesline.



P.J.'s Place and Treehouse



First Floor



Shhhh! I can go up the stairs to P.J.'s Place if I want a break or need a quiet place to sit and look at a book. There are benches and many books on the shelves.

I can take a bridge to the treehouse next to P.J.'s Place. The bridge might feel wobbly, but I am safe. In the treehouse, I can look out a window and pretend I'm in the trees!

Theatre



First Floor

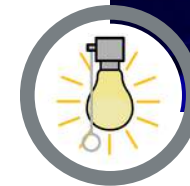


In the Theatre, I can dress up on stage or operate the sound and lights. It is dark to make it look like a real theatre. If there are other children, I will need to wait my turn. When I leave this area, I will leave the dress up clothes for other children to use.

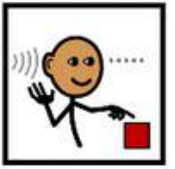
Glow Zone



The Glow Zone is next to the theater. It is also dark. There are fun glow-in-the-dark pieces I can play with in this room.



Lower Level



Lower Level



In the Lower Level, there are usually one or two activities offered especially during Sensory Time.

Sometimes, I can choose to play musical instruments or dance to music. I may need to take turns with the instruments.

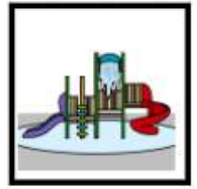


Sometimes, I can see a dog. It is a trained therapy dog. It likes to meet new children and grown ups. I can decide whether or not I want to get close to the dog. I can ask the dog's handler if I have any questions about the dog. I may need to wait my turn to softly touch and pet the dog.



Sometimes, there are special sensory toys and materials set out for me to try.

If I want to eat or drink during Sensory Time, I do this in the Commons area located at the bottom of the stairs.



Second Floor

Tall Timbers Rooftop Adventure



The Rooftop Adventure is a great place for me to climb and get my energy out! I can also find the Rooftop Rhythms music area where I can play musical instruments. The Dino Dig is a place where I can pretend to be a paleontologist and dig for dinosaur bones.

Some days it is closed. If the weather is too hot, cold, rainy, or smoky, my grown-up might tell me we need to stay inside. I can come back another time.

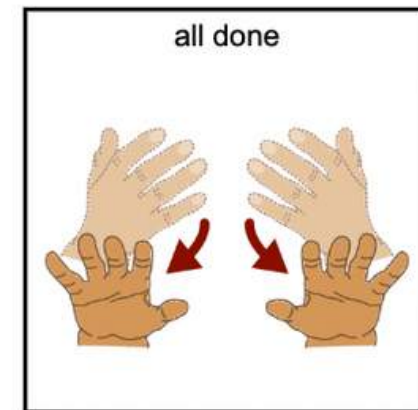
Saying Good-bye to the Museum



When it's time to go, I'll leave the way I came in on Wall Street.

My time at the Museum is all done. I can say "Bye-bye, Museum! See you next time!"







I had a great time exploring and I can't wait to come back!



Plan Your Visit

Use the visual checklist to plan your visit to the Museum. You can print the checklist, cut out the exhibits, and paste them in the order you want to visit. Using this as a visual aid during your visit can also help your child transition from one exhibit to the next, checking them off as you go!

First Floor

	Woodlands Adventure	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Wildlife Rescue	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Camp Imagine	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Lodge	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Everett Transit Bus	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Movie Maker Studio	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Recollections Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Monte Cristo Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Airplane	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Water Works	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Toddler Area	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Farm	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Air-mazing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cafe & Laundromat	<input type="checkbox"/>
	P.J.'s Place & Treehouse	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Theatre	<input type="checkbox"/>

Second Floor

	Tall Timbers Rooftop Adventure	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Lower Level

	Special Sensory Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Questions for Caregivers

After you read through this social story, you may want to ask your child these questions to help prepare for your visit:

- What are you most excited about or worried about?
- What are you going to do/say if ____? *Role play with your child about specific scenarios that might come up.*
- What exhibits do you want to make sure we see?

This social story was created in part with support from **Northshore School District** with an intentional focus on diverse learners and families from multilingual backgrounds. Funds from the **Puget Sound Taxpayers Accountability Act (PSTAA)** help foster collaboration and innovation while leveraging partnerships with community-based early learning organizations to increase the likelihoods of improving early learning outcomes.

Developed in collaboration with Melissa Armstrong, M.Ed., BCBA, with feedback from families, Imagine Children's Museum staff, occupational therapists, and speech and language pathologists.

Imagine Children's Museum

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