Social Story: Entering the Museum

Soon, we will go to the museum.
This story tells us how to start our visit at the museum.

cincinnati🌸art museum
Before we go to the museum, let’s learn about the rules of the museum.

Here is what we need to remember.

- To keep our hands at our sides. We will not touch the artwork, the walls or the cases.
- To stay with our group.
- Not to eat, drink or chew gum in the galleries.
- To let the security guard look through our bag. They may ask us to put it in the coat room.
- To only use pencils and paper in the galleries.
- To use a soft tone of voice. We will not shout in the galleries.
- That security guards may ask us not to touch the art, but that’s ok.
- To buy a ticket at the front desk if we want to see a special exhibition.
- If we need a fidget toy or sensory headphones, we can pick them up in the Rosenthal Education Center. We will return them when we are finished.
- To walk slowly in the museum. We will not run in the galleries.
- To not take photographs when we see this sign.
We will see the big Pinocchio Statue.
That’s when we know that we are near the main entrance of the Cincinnati Art Museum.
If we need wheelchair or stroller access, we can park near the Dewitt Entrance. We will follow the signs to this entrance.
If we are at the main entrance, we will walk up the steps. Then we will go through the big wooden doors.
When we walk in, we will meet a gallery attendant at the desk on the right side. They are nice so it’s ok for us to say hi. If we have questions, we can ask them.
They will check handbags and backpacks. This helps to keep everyone safe.
If our bag is too big, we will put it in the coat room. 
We can also put our coats in the coat room. 
The coat room is protected by the gallery attendant at the front desk. 
All of our belongings will stay safe in the coat room.
Then, we will go to the front desk, where we may have to wait in line. The Visitor Services staff will greet us. They are nice, so it’s ok to say hi. If we need help, we can ask them questions.
If we need a ticket to a special exhibition, we can buy it here. We can ask the Visitor Services staff to help us with that.
The Visitor Services staff will give us a map.
The map will give us important information about the museum.
The map can tell us where things are in the museum
We can find the bathrooms and elevators on the map.
We may need sensory headphones or a fidget toy to play with in the galleries. We can borrow them from the front desk or the Rosenthal Education Center. We will return these before we leave.
We may need a sensory friendly guide to the museum.

It has a map that shows us quiet spaces and more.

We can find it at the front desk.
If we use the Dewitt Entrance, we will use the ramp. 
This will take us to the doors.
When we walk in to the Dewitt Entrance, we will meet a gallery attendant. They are nice so it’s ok for us to say hi.

If we have questions, or need to buy tickets, we can ask them.
They will check handbags and backpacks.
This helps to keep everyone safe.
The Dewitt Entrance also has a coat room to put our coats and bags.
All our belongings will stay safe in the coat room.
In the art museum you will see all kinds of art.

Have a fun visit!