GOING TO SEE "THE LION KING" SHOW

I am going with _____ to see THE LION KING show!



Seeing a show is a little like seeing something on TV, or seeing a movie. But the people in a show are right there on the stage. They are called actors.



The Lion King is a special kind of show called a musical. The actors will tell a story by talking, singing, dancing and using puppets.



The Lion King show is at the Benedum Center in downtown Pittsburgh. We may travel to the Benedum Center by car or taxi, or we may come by bus. My family will know how we will get there. If we travel by car, we may park in a big garage...



If we travel by Bus, we may get dropped off a couple of blocks away. If we travel by taxi, we may be dropped off near the front of the Benedum Center.



When I get to the Benedum Center, I will see big signs that say “The Lion King.” They look like this:



We will have to stand in line to get into the theatre and pass through Security. I may see lots of people of all ages. I will stand nicely and quietly while we wait. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on headphones, or ask an adult for help.



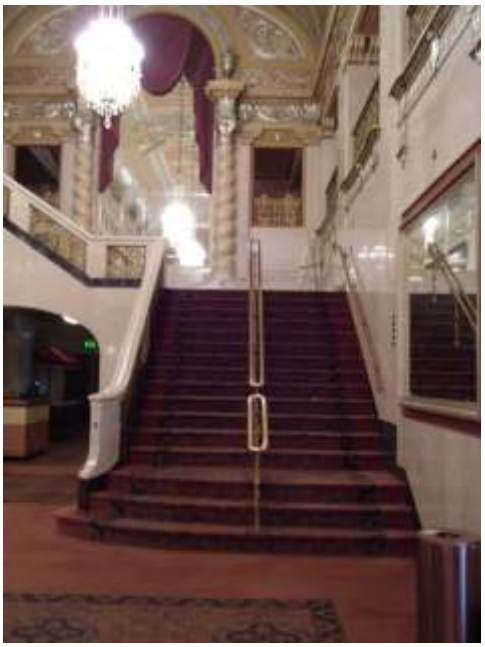


We will go inside the building and show our tickets to a person who will scan them with a small machine that looks like a cell phone, but it is not, This person will tell us where to go.





Our seats will be in a place called the Orchestra, a place called the Director's Circle, a place called the 1st Tier, or a place called the 2nd Tier. We need to stay with our family. When we get inside the lobby, we will go up the stairs to the right or left or, walk straight ahead. There is also an elevator. There will be signs to show us where the Orchestra, Director's Circle, 1st Tier and 2nd Tier sections are. We can ask the friendly Benedum Center people to show us where to go.





Before we go to find our seats, we can go past the restrooms and water fountains if I want to. If I need to use the restroom, I can ask.



If I need a drink of water, I can ask for one too.



I can sit and rest with my family outside the restrooms if we want to. Other families will do this too.

Next we will go inside the theatre. The theatre is very big. There are a lot of seats in the theatre!



A person called an usher will look at our tickets and tell us which seats to go to. The numbers on the tickets tell us where we have to sit. It is not a choice. The usher will also give us Program. Programs are books that tell you about the people who helped to make the show. Programs tell you the names of the songs you will hear in the show.



When we get to our seats, I will sit down nicely. I can sit in a booster seat if I need one to see the show.



When it is time for the show to start, someone will ask everyone to turn off their phones. The theatre will get darker and everyone will get quiet. I will try to be as quiet as I can during the show so that I can hear everything.



When the show starts, I will hear an actor start to sing. It will sound a bit like she is singing “AAAAH!” very loudly. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on my headphones, or ask an adult for help.





I will also see actors wearing big animal costumes walking to the stage in the Orchestra. There will be beautiful giraffes, elephants, hyenas and other animals. Some actors will be flying bird puppets.




There will also be singers in the Director’s Circle. Some of the animals and singers may come close to me. The animals are not real; they are just actors wearing costumes and makeup, like on Halloween.



It is important that I stay in my seat when the animals are walking to the stage. If I feel afraid or nervous, I can cover my ears, or ask an adult for help.




After the animals and actors are all on stage, they will sing a song called “The Circle of Life” and start to tell the story of the Lion King.




I will have a lot of fun at the show! There will be a lot of singing and dancing. Sometimes it will be loud. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on my headphones, or ask an adult for help. I know that even though the singing can be loud and can feel scary, none of the noise can hurt me.





If it's still too loud, I can let my family know that I need a break and go to a quiet area.



I may come back to my seat to see the show when I'm ready. I can do this when all the actors and animals are on the stage. I will wait to go until the way is clear. After each song, some people will clap.



Clapping is nice because it tells the actors you liked their song. If I want to clap, I can. I don't have to clap if I don't want to. If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on my headphones, or ask an adult for help.





I know that even though the clapping can be loud and can feel scary, none of the noise can hurt me.

In the middle of the show, we will have a break. This break is called Intermission. During the break, many people will stand up to go get a drink or to use the restroom. If I want to, I can ask for a snack or a drink.



I can also ask to use the restroom if I need to.



I can visit a quiet area if I want to.



After the break, everyone will come back and sit down in their seats again. It will get darker and quieter again just like at the beginning of the show. The actors will come back on the stage and finish telling the Lion King story.





At the end of the show, all of the actors will come out on stage. This is called a curtain call. Many people will clap a lot so the actors know how much they liked the show.

If I want to clap, I can. I don't have to clap if I don't want to. If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears, wear my headphones, or ask an adult for help.



After the show is over, we'll go down the stairs and go out of the Benedum Center. I am very excited to go see the Lion King!



"Going to See The Lion King Show" is based on a social story by Steven Chaikelson and Amanda Rosen, adapted for the Pittsburgh production by Vanessa Braun. Production photos by Joan Marcus.