

SYRACUSE STAGE

Mary Poppins
Social Story



I am going to the theatre to see the show *Mary Poppins*.

Seeing a show is a little like seeing something on TV or a movie. The difference is that the people in the show are on the stage. They are called actors.

Mary Poppins is a musical show. The actors tell a story by talking, singing, dancing, and even flying!



I will see houses on stage.

When it is time for the show to start, someone will ask everyone to turn off their cell phones.

The theatre will get darker and everyone will get quiet. I will try to be as quiet as I can be during the show.

When the show starts, I will hear the orchestra start to play music. This music is called the overture. If it is too loud I can cover my ears, wear my headphones, or hold my family's hand.



When the overture finishes, the lights on stage will get brighter and I will see some of the actors. The actors will be wearing costumes and make-up.



There will be a lot of singing and dancing. Sometimes it might be loud. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, wear my headphones, or hold my family's hand.

Some of the actors will be wearing a lot of make-up and dressed in different costumes, like on Halloween. If I feel afraid or nervous, I can cover my ears, hold my family's hand, or hug my family.

I know that even though the singing can be loud, none of the noise can hurt me.



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 or hold my family's hand.

People clap only for a short time then the clapping is over.



Sometimes when the actors dance, their shoes will make noise. This is called tap dancing.

The tap dancing can be loud. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, wear my headphones, or hold my family's hand.



Some of the actors in the show will fly.

They wear harnesses under their costumes. A harness is like a seatbelt that goes around your body. You can wear the harness while walking around.

The actors are lifted up by wires that attach to their harness. They are very safe the whole time they are flying.

When the audience sees people fly, sometime they clap because they are excited. The clapping can be loud.



In one of the songs, an actor walks up the walls of the theatre.

He is wearing a harness too. This harness lets him spin upside-down so that he can walk on the ceiling. He is very safe while he wears his harness and walks upside-down.

When the audience sees the actor walk upside-down, sometimes they clap because they are excited. The clapping can be loud.



At the end of the show, the actors will come to the front of the stage and bow while singing and dancing. This is called a curtain call.

After curtain call, many people will clap. Clapping is nice because it tells the actors you liked their show. If I want to clap, I can. I don't have to clap.

Some people will also stand up while clapping. This is called a standing ovation. If I want to stand and clap, I can. I don't have to stand up.

If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears or hold my family's hand.



Special thanks to Theatre Development Fund's Autism Theatre Initiative for serving as an advisor, www.tdf.org/autism

This Sensory Friendly performance is sponsored by:

