



**Making theater accessible
on both sides of the curtain**

2022 Social Story

I am Going to See

I am going to see a musical called The Lightning Thief. A musical is different than a TV show or movie. During a musical, the people telling the story are right there on stage live and in person.





Where am I going?

I am going to Nara Park in Acton MA. I will be outside when I watch this musical.



Seating

I will bring my own chair or blanket to sit on.

When I get to Nara Park, I will have to be patient as we show our tickets to a volunteer called an usher. After, I will be able to pick a space to sit.

If the usher is busy helping someone else, I may need to wait.

Bathrooms

If I need to use the bathroom, I can ask. There is a building with bathrooms in it next to the ball field. There are also accessible porta potties right next to the stage.

The best time to use the bathroom is before the show.



Programs

Before the musical starts, I will be able to see a program or play bill. This is a small online book that tells me all about the musical. It will tell me who wrote it, who the actors are, who picked out the costumes, and more.

To see the playbill, I can scan here:





The Lightning Thief

The Lightning Thief is a story about Percy Jackson. Percy Jackson is neurodivergent. He has ADHD and is dyslexic which means he sometimes thinks differently than those around him. He is the hero of the story and will go on a big adventure!

Monsters

Some of the actors in the show are pretending to be Monsters. They may pretend to be angry, mean, or scary. In real life, they are just people like you and me!



Actors rehearsing with Minotaur mask

The artist in
Medusa wig



The Artist with Cyclops puppet

Before the Show

Before the show, some of the actors will come and tell me about themselves. They will tell me who they are in real life, and who they are pretending to be to tell the story. They are acting out the story because they enjoy the fun.



When the Show Starts

When the show starts, the music and the lights may change. People may get quieter too. I will do my best to be quiet during the show so that everyone can hear the actors. I will also do my best to stay in my seat.

It is okay if I need to move around a little in my seat or make a little bit of noise. There will be snacks and drinks sold before and during the performance.



During the Show

The actors will sing, dance, and talk on stage to tell me the story of Percy Jackson. This will take about 1.5 hours.

It is okay to move around or get a snack during the musical.



Cast of Open Door Peter Pan 2016

Noise

Sometimes, the actors, music, or other people watching the play will be loud. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears or put on my headphones.



If I need it quieter, I can sit further away from the stage.





Special Effects

During the show, some of the actors will use leaf blowers to make toilet paper fly. This may be a little loud. This scene is called Put you in Your Place and the actors stage a pretend fight with swords and may speak and sing loudly and stomp or tap their staffs. If I need to take a break, it is ok. There will be no intermission, but I can take a break whenever I want. There is another scene with leaf blowers called Son of Poseidon.



Clapping

One noise I will hear a lot of is clapping. Clapping is how we tell the actors we like the story. If I don't want to clap, I can use the American Sign Language sign for clapping like this:



At the End

At the end of the musical, all the actors will come on stage and bow. This is called a curtain call. During curtain call, the audience usually claps and cheers to tell the actors they liked the play. I can clap too!



Curtain Call cast of Seussical 2017

Remember, it is okay to cover my ears or wear my headphones during curtain call.

After the Show

After curtain call, the actors will come out.

If I want to, I can wave hello or ask for their autograph on my program.



Cast of Open Door Cinderella backstage 2018

I am excited to see the Lightning Thief!

THE LIGHTNING THIEF

JUNE 24, 25, 26

OPENDOORTHEATER.ORG

