

I am going to the
Maine Discovery Museum.



When I go inside the entrance, I will see the glass doors to the Maine Discovery Museum on the left. I will go through these doors to get into the Museum.



When I walk in, I will see the Gift Shop and the Admissions Desk. I will check in at the Admissions Desk with my family.



The Museum staff wears bright red aprons. The staff can help me while I am visiting the Museum.

After I check in, I will hang up my coat in the coat area. I will keep my shoes on while I visit the Museum.



If I need to use to the bathroom while I am at the Museum, there are bathrooms on the first floor and on the second floor of the Museum.



The bathroom on the second floor looks like a big orange truck.



While I am at the Museum, I will try to remember to:

1. Always *walk* from place to place.
2. Use my "*indoor voice*."
3. *Stay together* with my family or group.
4. Never bang on the glass of the animal cages- they don't like that!



Please don't
scare me!



The museum has stairs and an elevator to get from floor to floor. I can choose which way I want to go up and down.



Going Up!



There are many things to do and to see at the museum. On the first floor we can explore *Nature Trails*, *Maine Waters*, and *Nano-Science*.



Some things, like the water and rocks, may feel cold when I touch them. The air may smell damp and musty. It is dark inside the Beaver Lodge- I can choose to go inside or not.

The Nano area is filled with fun science and technology exhibits I can explore with my family.

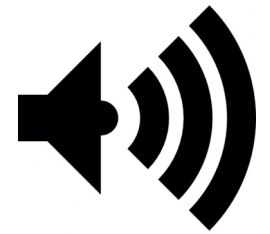


There are lots of things to touch, hear, and see to help me learn about our world.

On the second floor I can visit the *Italian Bistro* and the *Cargo Ship*. The horn on the *Cargo Ship* can be very loud.



Let's make
some lunch!



I can visit *Booktown* to explore scenes from some favorite books by Maine authors, like *Goodnight Moon* and *Charlotte's Web*.



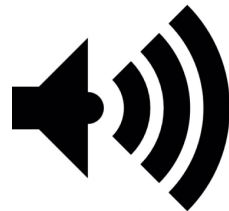
Or spend some time with a book I choose in the *Booktown* Library.



Some of the exhibits I can visit on the third floor are the *Dino Dig!* and *Sounds Abound*. I can dig in the soft and rubbery "sand" to find fossils and other surprises.



It can be very loud inside the Karaoke Studio of *Sounds Abound*.



I can explore the *Body Journey* to learn about how my body works in a giant heart and intestine, and play doctor or dentist at their office exhibits.



If I get hungry while I am at the Discovery Museum, I can take a break in the snack room. Sometimes there will be other children and their families having a snack too.

SNACK
TIME!



There is a lot to see and do at the museum. If I do not get to do everything today, perhaps I will be able to come back and visit again.



I will wave goodbye to the Museum staff when I leave. Visiting the Discovery Museum is fun!



This Social Narrative was developed through a partnership with the Maine Autism Institute for Education and Research (MAIER). Special thanks to UMaine students, Olivia White and Martha Gladstone, for your thoughtful assistance in making this visual support for patrons to the MDM with autism and other special needs.



~Donna Doherty, Family Partnership Director, MAIER

For more information about the Maine Autism Institute for Education and Research, or MAIER's Family Partnership program, Contact MAIER: 5766 Shibles Hall, Orono, ME 04469 /207.581.2352 / maineautisminstitute@maine.edu