



## Teacher Check List

*To ensure that your students have an enriching & educational experience at Discovery Theater!*

### **What You Need to Know:**

- ◆ To contact us for any reason, please call 202-633-8700 or email [DTinfo@si.edu](mailto:DTinfo@si.edu).
- ◆ Know the location of your performance; this can be found on your ticket or our website.
- ◆ You do not need paper tickets to enter. You are receiving one confirmation ticket with your show information and the total number of tickets written on it. You do not need the ticket to enter.
- ◆ The show will begin promptly at the published start time. Please plan to arrive 15-20 minutes before that. Latecomers will be sat at a convenient break in the show.

### **What You Should Do:**

- ◆ Let us know asap of any wheelchairs or special seating requirements before your scheduled performance.
- ◆ ALWAYS call us if you need to request extra tickets for your group. Our shows often sell out and we may NOT be able to accommodate extra people.
- ◆ Check our website for a Learning Guide to accompany your trip. Guides are posted 2 weeks prior to the performance at the latest. The address is: [http://discoverytheater.com/education/learning\\_guides.shtm](http://discoverytheater.com/education/learning_guides.shtm).
- ◆ Teach your students about theatre and museum etiquette which can be found on the reverse side.

### **What to Expect the Day of the Show:**

- ◆ We will start seating 15 minutes before show time, please arrive early.
- ◆ A lead teacher should check in at the box office when your group arrives. We need a count of children and adults.
- ◆ Seating is done on a first-come, first-served basis. We do our best to seat smaller children up front; however, if you are late, we are not able to do this.
- ◆ Seating for children is on the carpeted floor space. We have additional risers in the back for small groups or groups with older children. Adults can sit on the chairs surrounding their group and on the risers in the back.
- ◆ There is NOT a space to have lunch in the Ripley Center. Lunch is available for purchase at many of the Smithsonian Museums and at the Castle Visitor's Center. Outside food is not permitted in any of the museums. Please plan to have lunch outside on the National Mall, on your bus, or back at school.
- ◆ Bag lunches and backpacks should be left on the bus or at school whenever possible. If this is not possible, children will be asked to leave their lunches outside of the theatre so they do not disrupt the performance.
- ◆ For a list of other activities at the Smithsonian, please visit [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu) and view the Calendar.



## Theatre & Museum Etiquette for Young Audiences

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### Theater Etiquette

- ◆ Explain that students are going to a live performance with actors.  
The question we hear most from students is, “What movie are we seeing?”
- ◆ Encourage students to use restrooms before the performance.
- ◆ Food, beverages, and candy should be discarded before entering the theater.
- ◆ Stay with your group and listen to the house manager’s instructions about seating.
- ◆ Respect those around you by not whispering or talking during the performance.
- ◆ Participate or respond to the performers if they ask the audience a question (adults, too!).
- ◆ Stay seated unless you are asked to move by an adult or a performer.
- ◆ Show appreciation by clapping. Performers love to hear applause - it shows how much you enjoyed it!
- ◆ Have fun! Learn something new!

### Museum Etiquette

- ◆ Upon entry, bags will be checked by Security and any food or drink should be discarded.
- ◆ Preserve the objects in the exhibit by not touching them, unless instructed to do so.
- ◆ Keep voices low inside the galleries.
- ◆ Stay with your group leader.
- ◆ Walk (no running or pushing).
- ◆ Wait for others to finish viewing an exhibit if the space is crowded.
- ◆ Keep any handouts or educational materials and share what you learned with others.
- ◆ As always, have fun! And learn something new!

**Remember:** When students know where they are going, why they are going, what they are going to learn about, and something about the subject, they gain a better appreciation for the performance and the exhibits. They will observe more closely, retain more information, and make connections to their school work.

*Thank you for giving your students this valuable, cultural experience at the Smithsonian.  
We hope you enjoy your time with us and come back often!*