



HoustonBallet



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TEN YEAR
ANNIVERSARY



MADE FOR HOUSTON.
LOVED BY GENERATIONS.

THE
NUTCRACKER

PRESENTED BY HOUSTON
Methodist[®]

A Social Narrative



I am going to see Houston Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*.



I will travel downtown and park in the Theater District Parking Garage.



The Nutcracker is performed at the Wortham Theater Center.



I will follow signs to the Wortham Theater Center.



I can take the stairs or the elevator to the Box Office or Lobby.



An usher will scan my tickets and I will take an escalator or elevator into the Grand Foyer.



The Grand Foyer is a busy place with a lot of people. I can purchase food and souvenirs. If I need a break, I can follow signs to rest in a Quiet Space.



If I want to participate in some activities, I can follow signs that say Activities.



I know the show is about to start when I hear the chimes. It is time to go find my seat.



Clowns will appear on stage and make balloon animals, and explain the rules of the theater.



When I am seated, I see a stage and lights in the theater. I may be sitting next to someone I don't know. I can hold my adult's hand if I feel nervous or scared.



The show starts when the big red curtain opens, and the music starts. The lights get darker in the theatre, but I can still see.



Going to the ballet is like watching TV or a movie because it tells a story.



There are a lot of things to see at a ballet.



In ballet, there are no words, instead, dancers tell a story by moving their bodies.



This includes dancers in costumes, scenery and props.



The music is played live by an orchestra.



It is okay for me to make noise while I watch the show. Clapping tells the dancers they are doing a good job. If I want to clap, I can.



If I ever get scared or things get too loud, I can cover my ears, squeeze a fidget or hold the hand of the person I came with. It's okay to say that I need a break. I can leave the theater at any time and follow signs to rest in a Quiet Space.



I can use the restroom, get a drink of water or go to a quiet space any time I need to. I can come back to the show when I am ready. I can do this while the dancers are on stage.



***The Nutcracker* is a story about a magical journey. I will see mice and soldiers fighting with swords.**



The dancers dressed in costumes are playing pretend, or acting. No one gets hurt.



At the end of Act I, snow will fall.



Everyone takes a break halfway through the show. This is called intermission, and it lasts 25 minutes.



During the intermission, I can go to the bathroom, walk around, eat a snack, do activities, or rest in a Quiet Space during this break. I can also stay in my seat if I want.



When the show is over, the dancers will bow, and some people will stand and clap. If I want to clap, I can. When the curtains close and the theatre gets brighter, it is time for us to go home.



**I know the show when I hear the chimes.
It is time to go find my seat.**



When the performance is over, and the curtain closes, I will leave the theater. Everyone else will leave too. It is important that I stay with my group at all times. If I need help finding my way, I can ask an usher to guide me.



HoustonBallet

Thank you for coming to see
***The Nutcracker* with**
Houston Ballet!

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
EXPOSE. EDUCATE. INTEGRATE.