SOCIAL NARRATIVE

MY SOCIAL NARRATIVE TO SEE BLEU! AT TPAC.

This Social Narrative will help improve understanding of expectations during unfamiliar events.
I am going on a field trip to the Tennessee Performing Arts Center (TPAC) to see a play called *Bleu!* with my class.

We will ride on a bus to the TPAC building.
When we arrive, there will be bus parkers in red vests and police officers there to direct us to our parking spot. Sometimes the bus driver will drop us off at the door before parking. My teacher will let us know what to do.
When we get off the bus, we will go into the building. A representative with a TPAC nametag will greet our teacher in the lobby and show us where to go.

There might be a lot of people in the lobby. We may have to wait for a little while. While we are waiting, I will try to stay in line with my group and talk in a quiet voice. A quiet voice means my group can hear me but the people waiting near me cannot.
We will ride an elevator to the Johnson Theater. The elevator might stop on different floors so other people can get on or off the elevator. On the elevator, I can talk quietly to my friends. My teacher will tell me when it’s time to get off of the elevator.
When we get off the elevator, we may have to wait in the lobby before the show begins. While I am waiting, I can talk quietly to my friends. I will try to stay in my space while I wait to enter the theater. The lobby may be full of other people and it might be noisy. When the lobby is full, people might bump in to me. If it is too noisy, I can cover my ears, or ask my teacher to go to a quiet space.
For this show some people might take off their shoes before entering the theater and leave them in the lobby. I may choose to take my shoes off or I may choose to leave them on. If I take my shoes off, my teacher will show me where to leave them during the show.
While we’re waiting, I might hear announcements being made in the lobby. These announcements may be loud. I can cover my ears until they are done. I will try to stay calm and wait for my teacher to tell me where to go.
If I need to go to the bathroom, I can ask my teacher for a bathroom break. The bathroom may be busy or noisy. I may need to use the toilet and wash my hands when it is quieter inside the bathroom.
When it is time to enter the theater, I will line up with my friends and wait for an usher to show us to our seats.

In the theater, we will sit on risers. I will try to sit with my legs crossed or with my feet on the floor. After I sit, other people might need to walk in front of me to get to their seats. I will try to be helpful by moving my feet out of the way. It is a small space so they may accidently touch me when they walk by.
Inside the theater there will be two dancers on the stage area. The theater may be dark, and the lights on the stage will change. I may hear music and underwater sea sounds.
During the show, the dancers will move around the stage. I will see images of fish, crabs, boats, seashells, and other things I might see near the ocean. Sometimes the lights will change. Sometimes fabric will move up and down from the ceiling.
While I am in the theater, I will try to be a respectful audience member by staying in my spot and watching the dancers on stage.

If I see something I like during the show, I can clap my hands for the dancers. Other people sitting by me might clap and laugh at things too.
Some people will be asked to come on the stage and dance. If I am asked to go onto the stage, I can say yes or no. When my turn is finished, I will go back to my seat and sit with my class.
If I need a break, I can tell my teacher. If I need to stand up near the exit I can ask my teacher. If I need to exit the theater to the lobby or a quiet space I can ask my teacher. I will try to wait for my teacher to tell me what to do. I can go back to my seat in the theater when I am ready.

If I feel nervous or scared I can ask my teacher for a break. If I hear sounds that are too loud, I can cover my ears or ask my teacher to go to the lobby or a quiet space. I can go back to my seat in the theater when I am ready.
I will know the show is over when the dancers take a bow. If I like the play I can clap my hands. People around me might clap too. The clapping might be loud, but it won’t last long. If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears until it is over.
When the show is finished, I may have to wait for a little while before my group can leave. When I am waiting, I can talk quietly to my friends and I will try to stay in my space. The ushers will show us the way to the lobby.
If I took my shoes off before the show, my teacher will tell me to put my shoes back on. I will try to wait for my teacher to tell me what to do.
We will ride the elevator upstairs to the main lobby. In the elevator I can talk quietly to my friends and will try to stay in my space. Then we will go back to the bus, and ride back to school. It might be a fun day at TPAC!