



Dino-Light

parent tipsheet

2024-25 Sensory-Friendly Programming

DINO-LIGHT
A GLOW-IN-THE-DARK ADVENTURE

Dallas Children's Theater welcomes all kids and families to our performances, but we know that some families hesitate to bring their children to live theater without knowing how they might react. Our sensory-friendly performances are designed to be a safe and accepting environment for children with sensory sensitivities.

Here are some points about this performance:

- Patrons should be aware that this show takes place entirely in the dark (**the house lights will NOT be on**) and may not be appropriate for audience members who cannot tolerate being in a dark environment.
- The performers in this show cannot be seen. They wear costumes that have special lights on them and only the lights can be seen during the show.
- Because the show takes place in the dark and the only things that can be seen onstage are the lights on the performers' costumes, overall it is a visually intense show.
- Because the performers can't be seen, it may be startling for some audience members to see objects move on stage and not be able to see how they are moving.
- There will be volunteers with flashlights in the outer aisles to assist patrons who may need to enter or exit the theater, **but there will not be any lights in the audience**, nor will there be any traditional stage lights.
- The show is performed to prerecorded music that averages 75-80 decibels
 - 70 decibels is about the volume of a noisy restaurant
 - 80 decibels is about the volume of a vacuum cleaner
- There is a Social Story on our website that may help you prepare your child for what to expect when you come to DCT to see *Dino-Light*.
- We will have some activities in the lobby an hour before the show. Families are encouraged to come early and participate.
- The seating for the show will be general seating.
- There will be helpers stationed in the theater and lobby. They will be wearing white shirts and a badge with the DCT logo.
- Children too large for the baby-changing station can be changed on a full-size, cushioned mat located in our production wing restroom. Please ask any helper in a white shirt to direct you to that restroom.
- During the performance, if your child needs to take a break from the show, you can come to the lobby where you can view a live video feed of the show on a monitor, or you can go to a Quiet Room.
- Ear plugs will be available at the Box Office. Children are free to speak and move while in their seats in reaction to the story being told onstage.
- The show is approximately 60 minutes long and there will be no intermission.
- When the show ends, the actors will do a brief demonstration.
- To help us improve our sensory-friendly performances, we'd like to encourage all parents to complete the brief survey which will be emailed to you after the show and to give us any feedback about your experience at DCT.
- We want you to have a good time at DCT and enjoy all of the pre-show activities and your time in your seats before the show. We would kindly ask you to remember that this performance welcomes people at all sensory levels and as such we ask you to be thoughtful of your neighbor when it comes to cell phone lights and loud sounds. Our goal is to create a wonderful experience for all. We thank you for helping us do just that.

DALLAS CHILDREN'S THEATER

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