Going to see JACK & THE BEANSTALK

At the Alhambra Theatre in Bradford

Tuesday 12 January 2016 at 2pm

Visual Story

This is a visual resource for those with Autism Spectrum Condition.

It contains information about your visit to the Alhambra Theatre and about the show that you are coming to see.

This will help to prepare you for a new experience and to understand your surroundings.
Going to see JACK & THE BEANSTALK

I am going to see JACK & THE BEANSTALK!

Seeing a show is a bit like seeing something on TV, or a film. But the people in a show are right there on the stage. The people on the stage are called actors.

Jack & the Beanstalk is a special kind of show called a pantomime. The actors will tell a story by talking, singing and dancing.
Jack & the Beanstalk is at the Alhambra Theatre. When I get there, I will see big signs that say “Alhambra”. They look like this:

We may have to stand in line while we wait to get into the theatre. I will try to stand in the line and try to stay calm while we wait.
We will go inside the building and a person will tell us where we need to go.

Our seats will be in a place called the Stalls or Dress Circle. When we get inside, we will go down a few stairs.
Before we go inside the theatre, we will pass the toilets. If I need to use the toilet, I can ask the person I am with.

Then we will go inside the theatre. The theatre is very big. There are a lot of seats in the theatre!
A person called an usher will look at our tickets and tell us which seats to go to.

The numbers on the tickets tell us where we have to sit. It is not a choice. When we get to our seats, I will sit down nicely. I will sit in a booster seat if I need one to see the show.

When it is time for the show to start, a voice will ask everyone to switch off their phones. The theatre will get darker and everyone will get quiet. I will try to be as quiet as I can during the show so that I can hear everything.

When the show starts, I will hear music, hear thunder and see lightning flashing. The giant will speak loudly. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears with my hands, or wear my ear defenders or headphones, if I have brought them with me.
I will also see an actor walking across the stage. He is the giant’s servant FleshCreep, he is not very nice and shouts at people! If I feel afraid or nervous I can cover my eyes.

If I want to leave the auditorium at any point, there are quieter rooms where I can go to relax and play. There might be other people in those rooms.

Then I will see lots of actors singing and dancing with the lovely Princess Apricot as they start to tell the story.
There will be a loud sound of a rocket landing with sparkly fireworks that don’t bang, these will be bright and light up the stage. If I feel afraid or nervous, I can cover my ears. Jack Trot will step out of the rocket.

I will also see these other characters in the show:

Dame Trot: she wears lots of very bright dresses and hats

The Spirit of the Beans: she is magic and helps Jack
Benny Dorm: he is assistant to Spirit of the Beans and dances a lot

I will have a lot of fun at the show! There will be a lot of singing and dancing and I will see a giant beanstalk grow. There will be flashes and fireworks in the show.

After each song, some people will clap. Clapping makes the actors happy because it means people liked their song. If I want to clap, I can. If I don’t want to clap, I don’t have to clap.

If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears or wear my headphones. I know that even though the clapping can be loud and can feel scary, none of the noise can hurt me.

In the middle of the show, we will have a break. This break is called the Interval. It will last approximately 20 minutes.

During the break, many people will stand up to go get a drink or to use the toilet. If I want to, I can buy a snack or a drink. I can also use the toilet if I need to.
After the break, everyone will come back and sit down in their seats again. It will get darker and quieter again just like at the beginning of the show.

The actors will come back on the stage and finish telling the story of Jack & the Beanstalk.

I will see the big 3D giant if I put on some special glasses.

It will look as if the giant is very close and things are coming towards me but they are not, it is safe. The giant will not hurt me.
Sometimes it will be loud. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, or wear my headphones, if I have brought them with me. If I don’t like the giant I can take my special glasses off or close my eyes.

At the end of the show, all of the actors will come out on stage. This is called a curtain call. Many people will clap a lot so the actors know how much they liked the show. If I want to clap, I can. I don’t have to clap if I don’t want to. If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears or wear my headphones.
After the show is over, we’ll go out of the Alhambra Theatre. I might not leave the same way that I came into the theatre.

We hope you enjoy your visit to the Alhambra Theatre to see our pantomime, Jack & the Beanstalk!

If you want any further information or advice about your visit, please contact one of our House Managers on 01274 432375