

Social Story for a School Field Trip to the Des Moines Art Center





I am going to the Des Moines Art Center with my class. The Des Moines Art Center is an art museum in Des Moines, Iowa. There are many works of art to see.

We can read this story to learn more about how we will enter the museum, some of the people we will meet, and what we can do.



I will take a bus with my class to get to the museum. We will follow our teacher's instructions for how to get off the bus and enter the museum in groups.



When we arrive, we will enter the museum. Our groups will be greeted by museum guides, also called docents.



I can ask a docent or staff member for fidgets, noise-canceling headphones, or sunglasses to use during my visit at the museum.

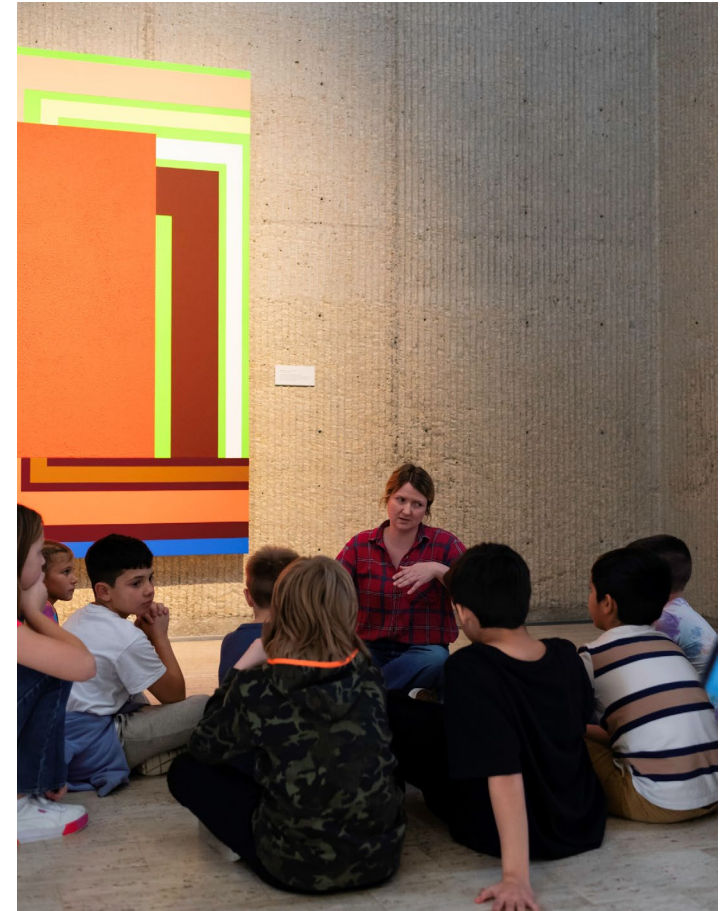
If I need to take a break or use the bathroom, I can ask my teacher, aide, chaperone, or a staff member for help.



We will meet our museum guide (docent) in the main lobby. It can be loud when there are many people in the lobby. We won't stay here for long. If needed, I can ask my teacher, aide, chaperone, or staff member for a quiet space or headphones.



In the lobby, museum guides (docents) will collect coats and other items like water bottles or backpacks we may have carried in. They will return these when our tour has ended.



On our field trip, we will take a tour of the museum. A docent is a person who leads tours of the museum. They will walk with me and my classmates. They will show us specific works of art in the museum. We can ask questions and talk about the art we see.



As I travel through the museum with my group, I can use stairs, an elevator, or a ramp. There are many rooms of artwork, called gallery spaces, to visit in the museum. They all feel different. It is part of what makes the tour exciting.



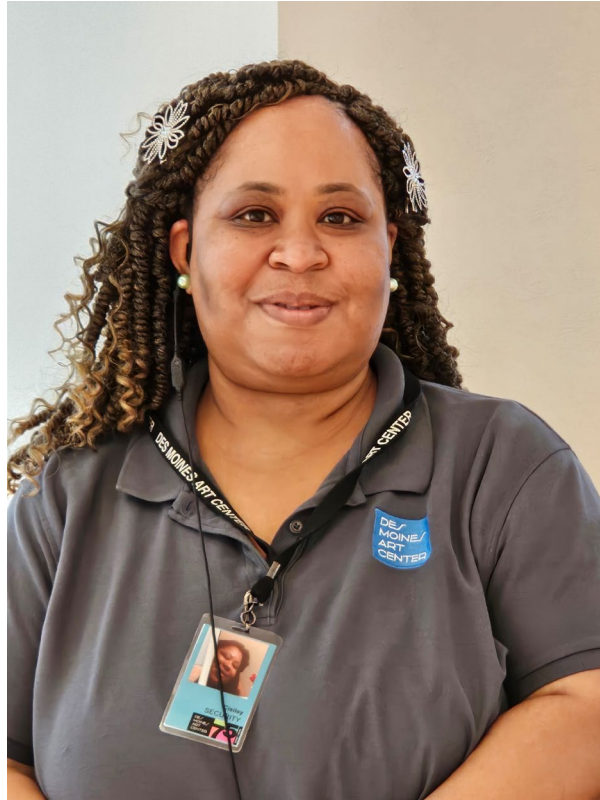
Some gallery spaces are big with tall ceilings, echoing sound, and cool air temperatures.



Some gallery spaces are smaller, cozy rooms.



Some galleries are bright, sunny spaces full of windows and light.



I will see security officers in the museum. We sometimes call them guardians of the galleries. They will be wearing gray shirts, black pants, and ID badges.

They are here to help people. They keep visitors and the art safe. If I need help or have a question, I can ask a security officer to help me. They will remind me to move back if I get too close to the art or touch the walls.



There are a few things to remember when I am in the galleries at the museum.
There will be other visitors in the museum at the same time as me.
I will remember to use a quiet voice.
I will always stay back from the art and remember not to touch it.
I will stay with my chaperone and will walk, not run.



When our tour is done, our docent will lead us back to the lobby and return any items I may have brought with me.

I will get on the bus and travel back to school. I hope to visit again soon! It is always free to visit the Des Moines Art Center.

