SOCIAL NARRATIVE
For Visitors on the Autism Spectrum (Group)

because history matters

NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM & LIBRARY
Today, we are visiting the New-York Historical Society.

While we are there, we will see a lot of art and artifacts about the history of New York.
When we first arrive to the main entrance on Central Park West, between 76th Street and 77th Street, we will walk a few steps up to the door.
When we enter, a security guard will ask to look in everyone’s bags, including mine. If we don’t have bags, we can walk right in. They might also talk to us about our food or drinks.
Next, a museum worker will greet us and introduce us to our educator, who will be leading us around the museum today. The educator will be holding a red bag.
Throughout our program, the educator will have objects and artifacts from history that we can touch. We will only touch it if we want to.
If we have any backpacks or bags, the educator will lead us to a blue bin where we can keep our things safe.
While we are in the museum, there are some rules we need to follow:

- We aren’t allowed to touch the art, unless a sign says we can.
- We aren’t allowed to eat or drink around the art.
- We are going to stick with our family or group.
- We are going to watch out for any barriers while looking at the art.
There are restrooms on every level of the museum. Some are private, some have multiple stalls. If we need to go, we will tell an adult in our group and they will lead us there.

Private, unisex restrooms on Level 1

Multiple stalls restrooms on every level
If we get lost from our family or group or just have a question, we can ask the security guards wearing black and white suits to help us.
If we get tired from walking around, we can sit down and rest on the round benches in Smith Hall on Level 1.
If we get thirsty, we can go to a water fountain on any level of the museum.
The museum has several permanent and several temporary exhibitions on display.
Once we enter, we can take the stairs on Level 1 or use the elevators to the left of the stairs to access all public floors of the museum.
Some exhibitions have sound, video, and light elements. Some exhibitions have touchable objects from the past.
We can check out the DiMenna Children’s History Museum on the Lower Level to see how children lived in the past. This is a special space because you can touch everything!
We can see movies about the history of New York or women’s history in the Smith Auditorium on Level 1. We can ask the security guard in front of the auditorium for show times. Each movie is 18 minutes long. Before it starts, the theater gets dark, and during the movie the sound is very loud.
We can go see the North Gallery on Level 4, which has many images and artifacts that tell us what life was like long ago.
If we need a quiet space, we can go to the Tiffany Gallery on Level 4. Here, we can also see many unique designs of lamps made a long time ago.
There are many more different exhibits for us to explore around the museum! We can walk around and learn about how New York came to be.
After our visit, if we left any bags or coats in the blue bin, we should remember to get them back.
We can leave the museum through the same door that we came in from. Goodbye New-York Historical Society! See you next time!