

Group Visits to the Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota

Getting ready for a visit to the Children's Museum? Here are some things you can do before you come to help make your visit a great one!

- Check over your group visit confirmation email and contact the Museum as soon as possible if you have any updates or need to cancel or reschedule your visit.
- Visit the Museum's website: <http://www.cmsouthernmn.org> to preview information about the Museum's exhibits and activities and review group visit information accessible at: <http://www.cmsouthernmn.org/parents-educators/> under the Field Trips tab.
- Read the Museum's Social Story, accessible online at: <https://www.cmsouthernmn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Social-Story-2018.pdf> with your group members a few days before you visit and share the link to the story with families to read at home.
- If you will be visiting with many children, it may be helpful to make smaller groups of 3-5 children for exploring the Museum and to designate a chaperone for each small group. You may also want to let the children in your group know who their chaperone(s) will be before arriving at the Museum.
- Talk with your group about things you can do to get ready for your trip to the Museum. Some ideas are:
 - Eat a healthy breakfast, snack or lunch before you arrive, so you will have fuel for fun adventures in the Museum!
 - Wear comfortable clothing and closed-toe shoes that will protect your feet while exploring the Museum's exhibits.
 - Practice using walking feet and inside voices before coming to the Museum.
- Connect with bus drivers or others who will be assisting with transportation to let them know to drop off and pick up group members at the Kato Engineering School Group Entrance on Lamm Street. Vans may park in the Museum's parking lot. Buses are encouraged to park off-site during the visit. Limited street parking for buses may be available on Lamm Street on the side of the street closest to the Museum.
- Count the actual numbers of children and adults with your group the day of the visit and have those numbers ready when you check in at the Museum. When your group arrives at the Museum you should check in with the Museum staff member at the Kato Engineering School Group Entrance before unloading buses or vans. After check-in is complete, Museum staff will help bring your group into the Museum.

Please feel free to contact the Museum via email at group.visits@cmsouthernmn.org with any questions you have before your visit.

