Social Guide

A Trip to The Museum of Modern Art

An introduction for first-time visitors, families, or visitors with developmental disabilities
Introduction

We can read this story as we get ready for our trip to The Museum of Modern Art. In this story we’ll learn about how to enter the Museum, some of the people who work at the Museum who can help us with our visit, and some of the things that we can do when we visit.
We are going to The Museum of Modern Art. This Museum is also known as MoMA. Inside, we will find many different types of art like paintings and sculptures. There are photographs and videos, too. There are even design objects like a helicopter.

Some artworks that we will see were made more than 100 years ago and other artworks were made by an artist this year! We are going to look at artworks and talk about them together. We might make our own art if we want. We can also take a break and sit down.
When we enter the Museum we will be in the Lobby. It might be crowded and noisy but other spaces will be quieter. To go to the galleries where we can see more artworks we need to purchase a ticket to the Museum. We might have to wait in line at the Ticket Desk. We will wait patiently for our turn to talk to a Guest Assistant.

Next time we come to the Museum our parents can buy tickets on moma.org so we don’t have to wait in line in the Lobby.
We can store our coat and bag at the coat check room. We might have to wait in line at the coat check room. We will wait patiently for our turn to talk to a coat check attendant.
There is an audio guide for families available on the MoMA app or at the audio desks.
There are people in the Museum who can help. They’re all friendly and happy to meet us. When we have questions, we can ask a Guest Assistant, a Security Officer, or a Volunteer. We can ask them our questions about the Museum and they will help us find an answer.

If we can’t find our family or friends, we should look for a Security Officer. They will help us find our family or friends at the Museum if we tell them we need help.
Getting Around

Once we have our Museum tickets, we can go to the galleries using an elevator or an escalator.

There are cafés for snacks and restrooms throughout the Museum.
When we go into the galleries, let’s remember to follow these rules:

1. We will stay with our group, family, or friends when visiting the Museum.

2. We will walk slowly. When we walk slowly through the Museum we can look at all of the artworks!

3. We will not touch the artwork. If we have a question about whether we can touch something, we can ask the person we came with before touching it.

4. We will speak quietly and use our inside voice.

5. We cannot eat or drink in the galleries.
Activities

We can collect Art Cards with activities at Information Desks in the Museum. When we’re in the galleries, we can try an activity.

Stop at an Information Desk to ask a Volunteer questions, collect Art Cards, and pick up a Sensory Guide. There’s also a Sensory Map, which shows places in the Museum that are quieter and less-crowded.
We can visit the Education Center to take a break, to have a snack if we brought one with us, and to create art. The Art Lab is open during Museum hours for all Museum visitors. We can meet an Educator and a Volunteer at the desk who will show us how to have fun in the Art Lab with different activities.
Some people want to spend the whole day in The Museum of Modern Art. Other people want to stay only a short time. Both are good. The important thing is to enjoy our time at the Museum.

We can exit the Museum through the Main Lobby. It might be crowded in the Main Lobby and we may have to wait in line if we need to pick up our coats or bags at the coat check room. When we’re ready to leave we can use the exit to 54 Street.
Everyone is welcome at The Museum of Modern Art. We offer a variety of free programs to make the Museum accessible to you. Visit moma.org/access to learn more about programs for people with disabilities—including Art inSight for people who are blind or partially sighted, Create Ability for children and adults with learning or developmental disabilities and their families, Interpreting MoMA for deaf adults, Meet Me at MoMA for people with Alzheimer’s or dementia and their family members or care partners—or how to plan an accessible group visit with your school or community organization.

Find more resources for your visit at moma.org/access.

Enjoy art with your family. MoMA offers free programs for kids ages four to 14 and their parents or caregivers. Visit moma.org/family to learn more about Family Gallery Talks, workshops, and Art Lab. To receive monthly updates on programs, sign up for the Family Programs newsletter at moma.org/newsletters.

Find more resources for your visit at moma.org/family.