



Disney PRESENTS
THE LION KING
THE LANDMARK MUSICAL EVENT

**SOCIAL STORY FOR DISNEY'S THE LION KING
CROWN THEATRE, PERTH**

The show lasts for 2 hours and 40 minutes
including a 20 minute break (which is called an interval)



We are going to see a show called 'The Lion King'.

It is at the Crown Theatre in Perth.

Some people may know the story of 'The Lion King' already. Some people may have watched the cartoon version of 'The Lion King' at the cinema, or on TV or on DVD.

This version of 'The Lion King' is not a cartoon; it is a special kind of show called a musical. The characters in the show are played by actors and puppets. They tell the story by talking, singing and dancing.



Photograph courtesy of Crown Perth



Photograph courtesy of Crown Perth

At first, I may have to wait in a queue when we get to the theatre. People wait in queues to get their tickets. It may be quite busy and noisy.



Photograph courtesy of Crown Perth

Next we need to find our seats. I may walk up the stairs, I may take the escalator or I may take the lift.

I might get introduced to a person who can help me and my family during the show. These helpers will be wearing a blue shirt with the words "Event Team" printed on the back.

A person called an usher will look at my ticket and tell me where my seat is.

The letter and number combinations on our tickets help everyone to know where to sit in the theatre.

If my ticket says E6, then I will know that my seat is the sixth seat along in Row E. It's important to sit in this seat so that everyone has a place to sit.



Photograph courtesy of Crown Perth



When I get to my seat, I can try to sit down. I will be part of the audience. I will need to wait for the show to start as the actors need time to get ready. The lights will be on and the curtain on the stage will be closed.



Photo courtesy of Autism Awareness Australia



Photo courtesy of Autism Awareness Australia

When it is time for the show to begin, I will hear a voice asking everyone to turn off their mobile phones.

The theatre will get darker as the lights are turned down. This helps the audience to concentrate on the show.

Most people will stop talking and moving around. It's important to be as quiet as I can during the show so that I can hear everything.



Photographs by Deen van Meer and Joan Marcus ©Disney

The characters may come out onto the stage and introduce themselves. Most characters will be wearing a costume. Sometimes that might be an animal mask that covers their face, like a lion mask. Sometimes they might be dressed up as an animal – perhaps a giraffe, or a hyena or even an elephant! Sometimes I will see the actor moving an animal puppet in front of them.



Photograph by Deen van Meer ©Disney

When the show starts, I will hear an actor start to sing loudly. It needs to be loud so that everyone in the audience can hear.

Sometimes the actors might roar. Some people think that this adds to the excitement.

Some of the animal actors and singers may come close to me as they walk down the aisle. It is important that I try to stay in my seat and put my hands in my lap if they are walking past me. These actors are part of the show and they could get distracted.



Photograph by Jeremy Juillerat



When the animal actors and singers are all on stage, they will sing a song called “The Circle of Life”. There is an orchestra just in front of the stage and this is where the music will come from.

On the stage, there will be pretend rocks. This is part of the set and these rocks will move around. Sometimes the set will change. This helps the audience to imagine where the animals might live.



Photograph by Deen van Meer ©Disney

The actors will sing lots of different songs to tell ‘The Lion King’ story. At times during the show and usually after a song, some people may clap. People clap to tell the actors that they liked their singing and acting.

If I want to clap, I can. I don’t have to clap if I don’t want to.



Photograph courtesy of QPAC



In the middle of the show, there is a break. This break is called an interval. The lights come back on so that people can see where they are going.

During the interval, I can go to the toilet if I need to, and maybe get a drink or a snack. If I want to go to the toilet or have a break during the show, I can quietly leave my seat.

I might have to tell my family or friends if I am leaving my seat. My family or one of the helpers can help me to find the toilet. If I need a break, there will be special areas with other helpers that I can go to.



Photograph courtesy of Crown Perth



After the interval, the audience 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 stage and continue to tell the story of 'The Lion King'.



Photograph by Mark Burgin



Photographs by Deen van Meer and Joan Marcus ©Disney

Two of the main characters, Simba and Nala are now grown up and are played by different actors.



At the end of the show, all of the actors will come out and line up on the stage. This is called a curtain call. Many people will clap a lot so that the actors know how much they liked the show. Some people in the audience may also stand up to show that they liked 'The Lion King'.



Photograph ©Disney



Photograph courtesy of Crown Perth

After the show is over, it may feel crowded as the audience all want to leave the theatre at the same time. If it feels too noisy or busy, I could wait in my seat or in the corridor for a short time until there is more room to walk down the stairs.



Later, I might want to talk about 'The Lion King'
with my family and friends.



**We hope you have a lovely
time at THE LION KING!**