

Going to DreamBIG



I am going to the DreamBIG Children's Festival.

DreamBIG is a festival for children like me, where I can have fun and learn about the arts. I might see a performance, I might see an exhibition, or I might take part in a workshop or activity.

Arriving at the Adelaide Festival Centre

Most of the shows and activities in DreamBIG happen at the Adelaide Festival Centre.

When I arrive, I will enter through glass doors into a foyer.



Dunstan Playhouse Entrance



Festival Theatre Entrance

In the Foyer

The foyer is a space where I will wait with my parent or guardian to enter the space where our activity will happen. It can be crowded and noisy. I may have to wait in line until the theatre is open, or until it is time to take part in our activity. If I need to sit down, there will be some seating around the foyer that I can use.

The foyer might have paintings on the wall that I can look at while I am waiting.



Space Theatre Foyer



Festival Theatre Foyer

Toilets

While I am waiting for our performance or activity to start, this is a good time to go to the toilet. There are signs in the foyer that show me where the toilets are.

There might be a line to use the toilet and I will have to wait my turn. The toilets will have different lighting to the foyer and can be a tight space.



Dunstan Playhouse Toilets - Male



Dunstan Playhouse Toilets – Female

Not all of the DreamBIG shows and activities are at the Adelaide Festival Centre. Some are in different buildings. Some are outside. All of the buildings have toilets and most of them will have a foyer space to wait in before the show or activity starts.

Entering the Theatre

When it is time for the show in the theatre, there will be a bell chime sound. It won't be very loud but it can be sudden. A front of house staff member will tell me which way to go to enter the theatre. Inside the theatre, there are lots of seats. All of the seats are facing towards the stage. Everyone who is sitting watching the stage is called the audience. Everyone in the audience has their own seat.



To get to my seat, I may have to walk down stairs. If I have trouble walking down stairs, the front of house staff member will find me a seat where I don't have to. I may have to move past people who are already sitting. I will have to wait while other people sit down to get to my seat. Once I am sitting down, I will wait a few minutes for everyone else to sit down before the show can start.

Each of the DreamBIG shows are in different theatres. The show I am going to see may look a little bit different to these ones. But most of the shows will have a stage, and a seat for me to watch the show.



Dunstan Playhouse Auditorium



Space Theatre Auditorium



Festival Theatre Auditorium

The Stage

Actors perform on the stage. Actors wear costumes and tell us a story. It is like watching TV at home, except there are lots of people watching, and the actors on stage in real life. The story that the actors tell the audience is pretend.



When the show is about to start, the theatre will get dark. This tells me and the rest of the audience to be quiet. There may be an announcement before the actors come on stage, and the performance begins.

During the Performance

During the performance, the audience mostly stays quiet so they can watch the show. If I see something that I like, or that I think is funny, I can clap my hands or laugh. Other people around me may laugh or clap. If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears, wear earplugs or wear headphones.



The actors might ask me to do something, like call out an answer or give them a high five. I don't have to do this if I don't want to.



Noise and Lights

During the performance, there may be things that make me nervous, like loud sounds and bright or flashing lights. If I get nervous during the show, I can cover my eyes and ears, or wear headphones.



If I feel too uncomfortable, I can leave the theatre. A front of house staff member or my parent or guardian will help me exit quietly and safely. They will have a torch to help me see in the dark theatre. If I leave in the middle of the performance, I might not be able to go back into the theatre, but the front of house staff will tell me if I can.

If I leave the theatre, and don't want to go back in, I can sit or stand in the foyer with a staff member until the show is over.

At the end of the Performance

When the show is finished, the stage lights might go dark. Then the actors will come on stage and take a bow. The audience will clap to say thank you to the actors. Then, the lights will come up. A Front of House staff member will help me find my way to the theatre's exit.



If I left the show in the middle, when the show is over, everyone coming out of the theatre might be excited and loud. It might be quite a shock. I will wait for my group and join them for our next activity.

Going to a workshop

When I am at DreamBIG, I might also be taking part in a workshop. This will probably be with people I don't know.



Some of the DreamBIG workshops will be in a marquee, like the one in the picture. Some of the workshops will be inside a foyer or rehearsal room.



A workshop is a fun way to learn something new. I might be learning a new dance, or how to play an instrument, or how to do a painting.

Every activity will have a leader. When I arrive, the leader will explain what I will be doing.



There might be instruments or other objects in the workshop. I should wait until the facilitator tells me it is time to touch them before I touch or pick anything up.



The leader will tell me what to do. If I have any questions, I can ask the leader. I can also ask my parent or guardian to help me if I do not understand.



Many of the DreamBIG workshops involve music. This might be loud. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, wear headphones, or wear earplugs. If I am too uncomfortable, I can ask my parent or guardian if I can wait outside.

During the workshops I might be allowed to talk and walk around but I will need to wait for leader to tell me it's alright before I start.

Once the workshop is finished I will wait for my parent or guardian to lead me out of the space

Going to an exhibition

At DreamBIG there are exhibitions. Exhibitions are made up of lots of artworks. At DreamBIG, some of the artworks have been made by children like me!



The artwork in the exhibitions are for looking at only. When I am in the exhibition, I can look at any of the artworks, but I can't touch with my hands. I should walk, and not run, around the space.

In some of the exhibitions, there are videos. They may have sound or flashing lights. If the videos are making me feel uncomfortable, I can put on my headphones, or I can close my eyes. I can also walk away from the video.

There are a few different exhibitions in DreamBIG. Some might be paintings. Some might be sculptures. Some might even be puppets!



I can walk around and look at the artworks. I can talk to my parents or guardian quietly about what I see and I can ask them questions about any of the artworks.

Going to an interactive installation

An interactive installation is a big space full of lots of things to explore. Each installation is different. If I'm going to see an installation, my parent or guardian can give me some pages with pictures on it that will explain what I can expect.

Leaving DreamBIG

Once I have done all the activities I came for, we'll leave through one of the foyers and it will be time to go back home.

The DreamBIG team hope that you have a great time at the Festival!