



Sensory Friendly
Performance:
Sunday, March 3rd
at 2:00 p.m.

Social Story



I am going to Northwestern University to see the play *When She Had Wings*.



I will come to see the show by walking or taking the bus, train, or car



Northwestern Wirtz Center

When I get to Northwestern, I will enter the Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts.



(A map is at the end of the social story for my family)



Lobby

When I enter the lobby I will meet Allyson, Rachel, and other teaching artists.



Seating

At 1:45 pm, the doors to the theatre will open. I can go and find a seat anytime before 2:00 pm, when the show starts.

I get to pick where I want to sit.



Stage

The play will happen on stage. I will not go on stage or in the aisles. I will stay close to my seat, but can get up and move around near my seat if I need to.



Quiet Room

If I ever need a break, I can always go to the lobby to walk around or sit down. I can also go to the quiet area. The quiet area is in the room across from the theatre, called Wirtz 101. There will be some toys and a teaching artist in there.



Welcome Announcement

Before the show begins, an Imagine U staff member will welcome me to the show. They will tell me what makes this show special and ask the audience the question "what makes you fly?" If I want to, I can raise my hand to answer the question.



The lights will dim, and the play will begin. The lights will never go all the way off.



Glow Wand

Sometimes the show can be a little surprising. An Imagine U staff member will be seated near the stage and will hold up a glow wand before anything surprising happens.



If I am feeling nervous, I can cover my eyes or ears, or
I can hug the person I came with.





Entrances & Exits

During the show, the actors will be using four different entrances and exits and may walk by my seat. They will not touch me.



Music and Sounds

There is live music during the show, which means there is lots of singing, and live instruments like a guitar and a box drum. There are also many tools to create live sound effects, like a thunder sheet. There are also sounds that happen offstage like windchimes and crashes. If the sounds are ever too loud, I can cover my ears.



Movement

There will be lots of sudden movements happening onstage, like the use of ribbon poi and flying of different kites. I will never be touched, but if I don't want to be near the movement or water, I can sit closer to the back.



Lights

There will be many different lights with different colors that change during the play. The actors or crew control some of the lights onstage, like flashlights or plane lights.



Water

During the show there is water that gets splashed around. It will get close to the front rows, so if I would like to stay away from the water, I can sit towards the back.



Actors

There are 6 actors in this play. The actors are wearing costumes and pretending to be characters.



B

B is a 9-year-old girl who really wants to be able to fly. She is brave and never gives up. She knows a lot about flight and her role model, Amelia Earhart.



A

A is a mysterious creature who lands in B's treehouse after a storm.

She speaks just like a bird, but will say some words in English.

Sometimes her 'squaks' are surprising and loud.



Dad

Dad is B's father. He likes to work outside, and he loves B. The actor who plays dad also plays roles: the attendant and the man. He speaks many of his lines behind the curtains.



Wing Folk

The wingfolk are three actors who help create B's world. They create the music, control many lights, and help B fly.



Crew

The crew members help move set pieces and props. They may be moving quickly in the aisles. They will not touch you.



The Storm

In the show, there is a big storm that brings A into B's life. The storm may be loud and a little scary. If I want, I can close my eyes and hold my ears or step out of the space. I will be warned with a glow wand before the storm.



The Final Flight

Towards the end of the play, B and A go on a big flight. The set will move, there will be loud noises, smoke, and there will be music. If I want, I can close my eyes or hold my ears. I will be warned with a glow wand before this moment.



Clapping

At the end of the play, the actors will come onto the stage and bow.
The audience will start clapping. If the clapping is too loud, I can
cover my ears.



Meet and Greet

After the show, I can meet some of the actors and get their autographs in the lobby!





Boarding Passes

In the lobby after the show, teaching artists will have guidebooks called a 'Boarding Pass' available for me to take home. A teaching artist will ask me if I want one. I can respond "yes please" or "no thank you."



Going Home

I will then exit the lobby and go home with my family.





Map

I will be going to the place circled in red on this map of Northwestern's campus to see *When She Had Wings*.



Thank you for supporting Imagine U!



This social story was created by Rachel Seidenberg and Allyson Snyder as part of the Imagine U Education and Engagement Program

