

Visiting the National Air and Space Museum



NATIONAL
AIR AND SPACE
MUSEUM



I am going to the National Air and Space Museum! The Air and Space Museum teaches visitors about aviation and space travel. I can see many airplanes, learn about planets, and discover how we got to the moon! The Museum is a big place with hundreds of cool things for me to see and learn about when we visit! I can stay at the Museum for as long as I would like.



Over the next several years, the Museum will be making repairs, so some of the exhibits may be closed. If an exhibit is closed, visitors can look at other exciting things in the Museum!



When I get to the Museum, I will have to wait in line to enter. This is ok. It is good to wait my turn so everyone can enjoy the museum and see the artifacts.

I will do my best to be patient while I wait to enter. If waiting in line is hard for me, I can ask a staff member for help or have my adult ask the staff member for help.



When I enter the Museum, I will have to walk through the security station. If I set off the machine, they will have to look in my bag.

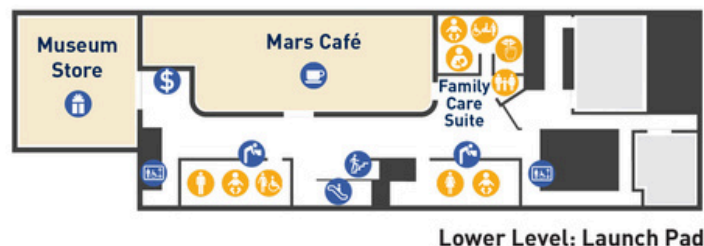
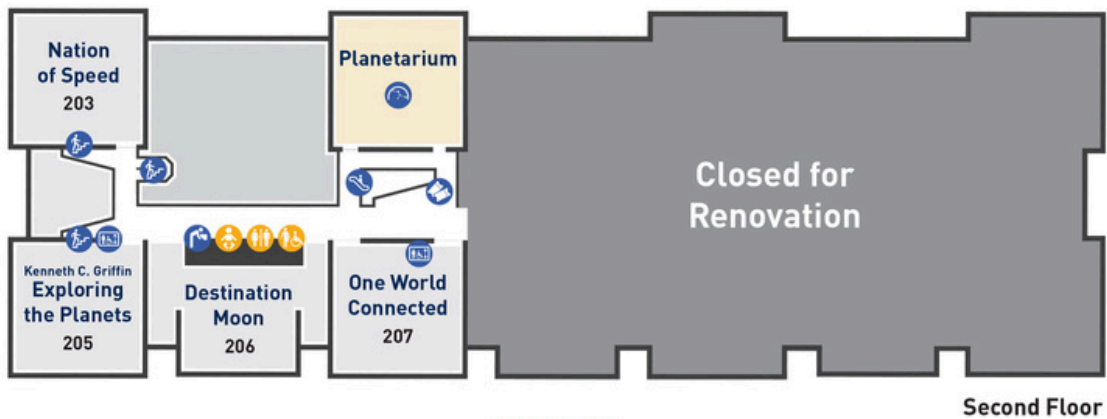
This is ok. They are here to keep everyone inside the Museum safe.



Once I enter the building, I may notice many people inside and it may be noisy. Others are excited to be here too! If it gets too loud, I can go to the quiet area of the Museum on the lower level or wear my headphones.



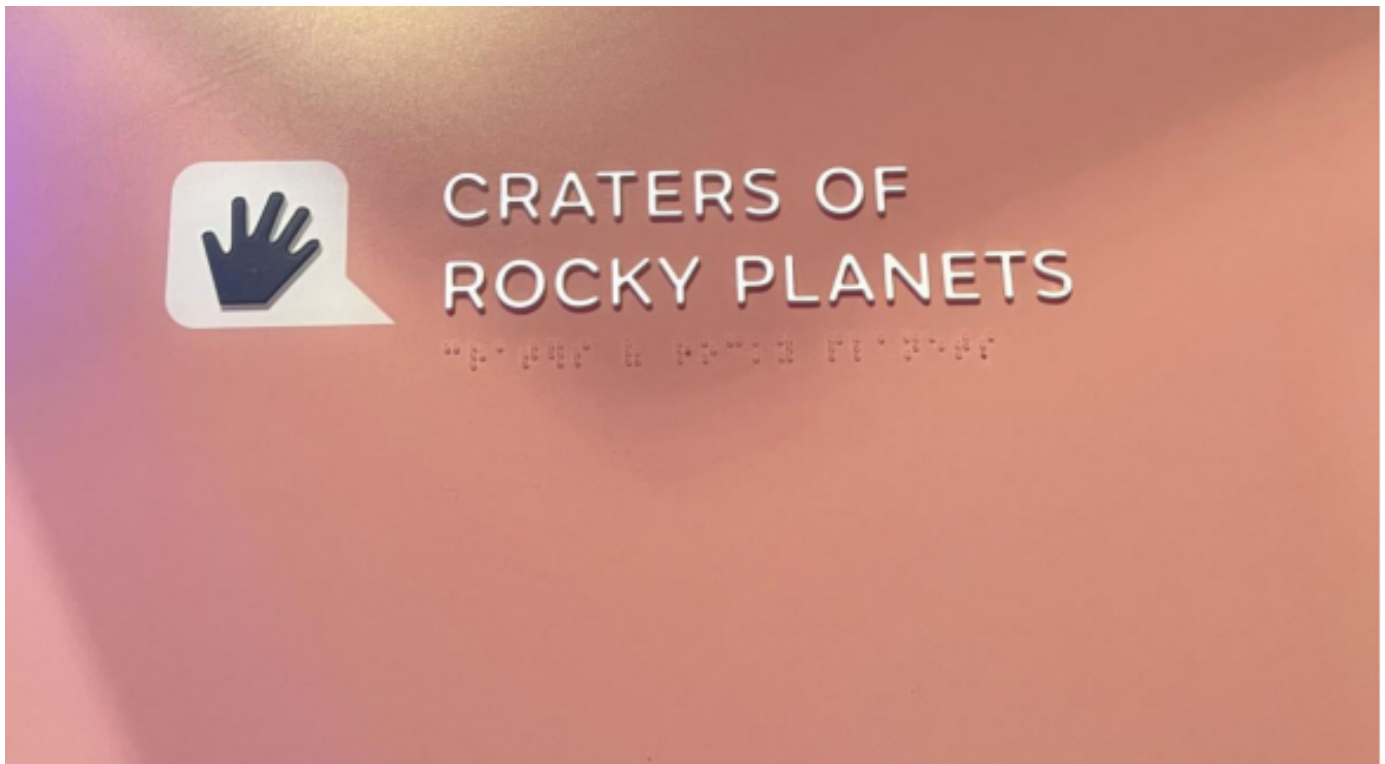
When I enter the Museum after Security, I will see the Southwest Airlines Welcome Desk and people wearing blue vests. These are volunteers. These people are very nice and are here to help me if I have any questions.



The Museum has maps that visitors can use to find what they want to see. I can ask the Volunteers at the Southwest Airlines Welcome Center for a map.



Sometimes it can be noisy in the gallery we visit. If I get too close to an artifact an alarm might go off. Many of the airplanes and other artifacts are very old, so its important to look with your eyes but not touch with your hands. If I need to take a break somewhere quiet that is okay!



In the galleries, there will be objects for me to touch. Any artifact or object that is okay for me to touch will have a sign next to it. If I am unsure, I can always look for the “please touch” sign. I can also ask a Volunteer or staff member if I can touch something or not.



There are three floors in the Museum. I may take escalators, elevators or stairs. It is important to stand still on the escalator so I can keep myself and the others around me safe.



I may see a Docent. A Docent gives tours to teach people about the museum. If I take a Docent tour, it is important to wait my turn to ask questions so I can give everyone a chance to learn.



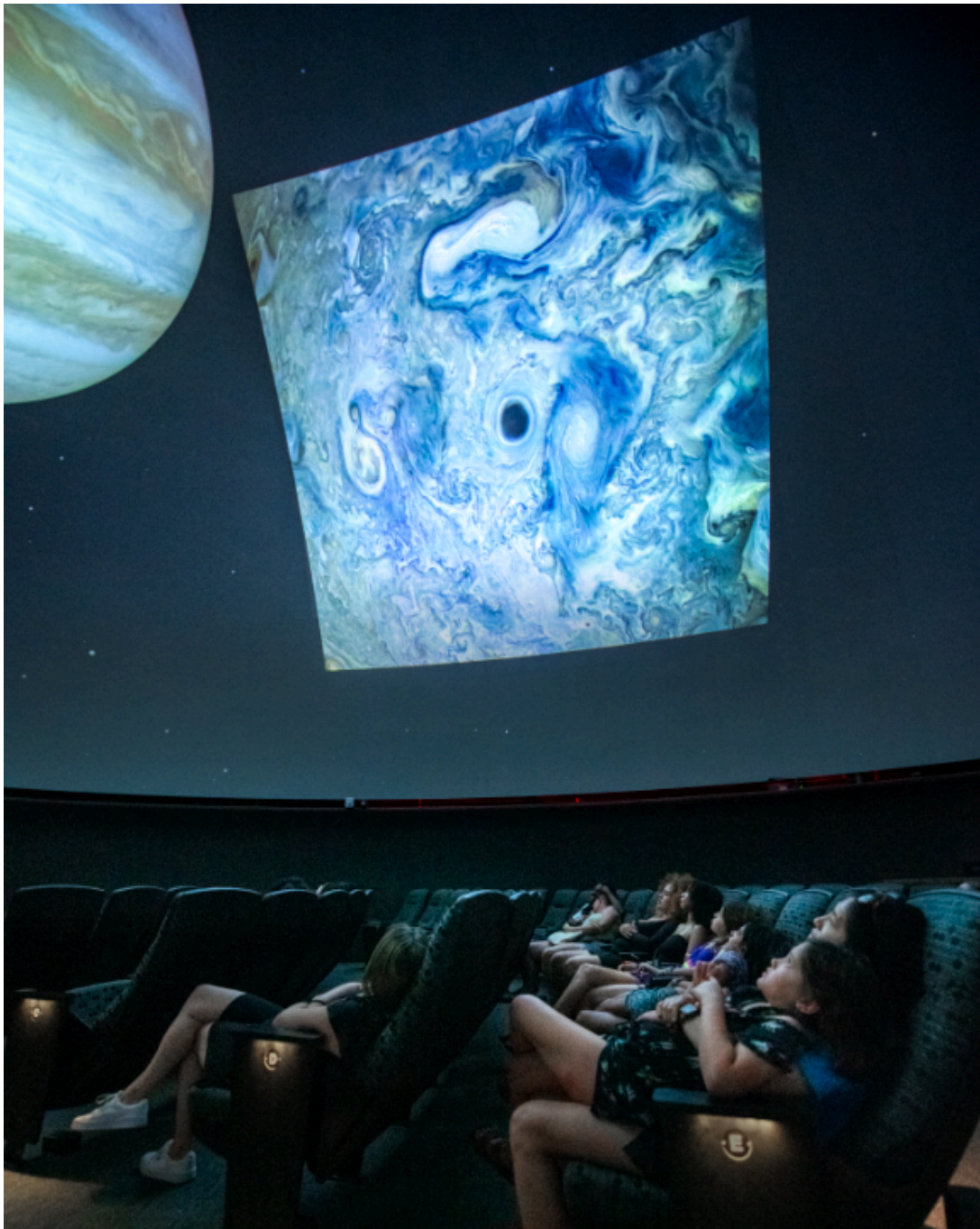
I may see a Discovery Station. These programs are run by Museum staff called Explainers or Museum volunteers. At the Discovery Station, I will learn about science, aviation, and space and will often get the chance to touch an artifact.



If I get hungry when I'm visiting the Museum, I can go to the Mars Café to buy food. I have to eat my food in Café to keep the Museum safe and clean for other guests. I will finish my food in Café or I will put it away before we leave Café.



While visiting the Museum, I can choose what I want to do. I may go walk around, take a tour, learn from an Explainer, or watch the show at the Planetarium.



The Planetarium shows movies about space. The Planetarium has a very large screen and is very loud. To watch a show at the Planetarium I will have to look up! If the movie gets to be too much for me, I can put my headphones on or tell my adult and we can leave the Planetarium at any time.



I will need to stay with my adult while we are inside the Museum. I will make sure that I can always see them as we explore the Museum. We can use the map of the Museum to figure out how to get to where we are interested in seeing.



If I need to use the bathroom during my visit there are bathrooms on every floor of the Museum. Some bathrooms have a few stalls and others have a door and just one toilet.

In the bathrooms, there are automatic hand dryers. They can be loud. If it gets to be too much, I can put on my headphones or let my adult know to go to a quieter space.



If I need a break during my visit, I can go to the quiet space in the Museum. I can go to the lowest level of the Museum to find the quiet room. I can find the quiet space in the Family Care Suite. In the Family Care Suite, I can also find a companion restroom and nursing room. I can ask a Volunteer to help me find the Family Care Suite.



When I am ready, to leave, I will go back to the Lobby to exit the Museum. I will try not to be upset if I did not see everything at the Museum before I leave. I can always come back another time!