

# VISITING THE NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

A SOCIAL NARRATIVE



Smithsonian  
*National Air and Space Museum*

**I am going to visit the  
National Air and Space  
Museum.**



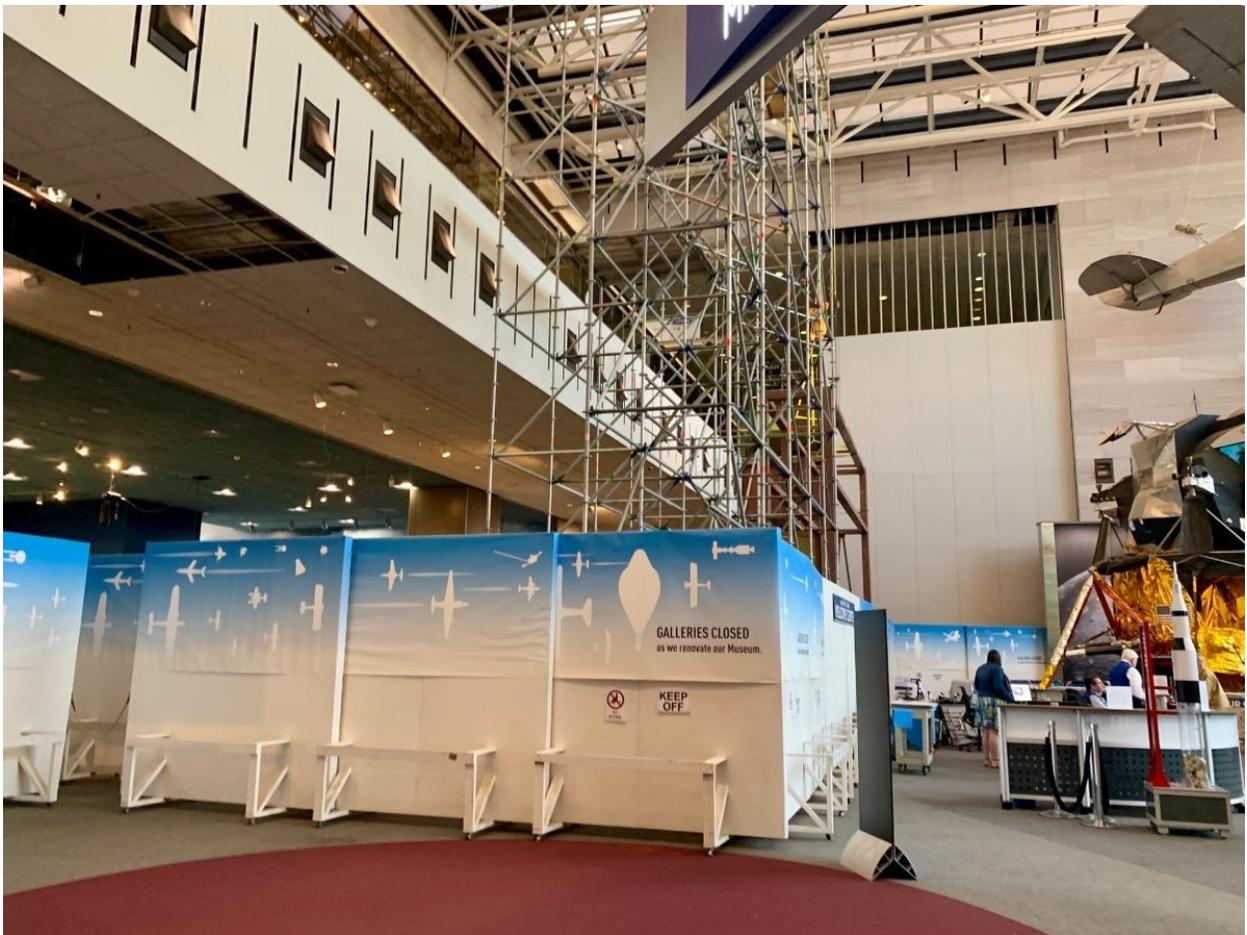


**The Air and Space Museum teaches visitors about space travel and airplanes.**

**I can see many airplanes and I can learn about science in space!**

**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!**



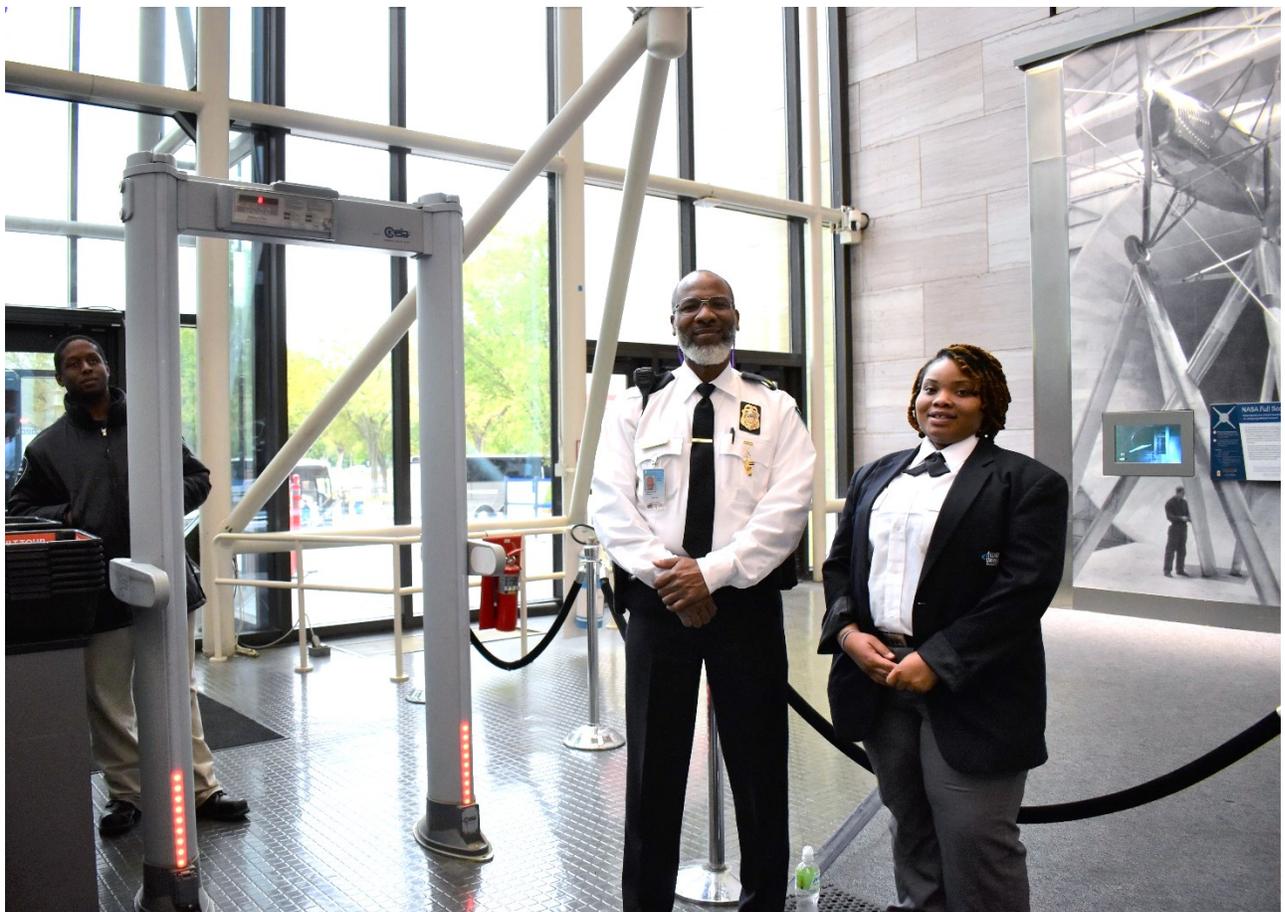


**Sometimes the museum is busy,  
and I may have to wait in line.**

**This is ok. It is good to wait my turn  
so everyone can enjoy the museum  
and see the artifacts.**

**When I enter the museum, a security officer may ask me to walk through a metal detector, and they will 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 a quieter area of the museum or wear my headphones.**

**One of the most important jobs of a museum is taking care of artifacts.**

**Artifacts are important items that may be very old. They can teach us about the past.**



**Some people with special training are called conservators, and they take care of artifacts.**



**I may look, but it is important to keep my hands away from the artifacts.**

**The things on display can be fragile, and I don't want to break them!**

**There are two 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 the Welcome Desk and people wearing blue vests.**



**These are volunteers and they are happy to help me if I have questions or if I am lost.**

**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 an Explainer.**

**This is someone in a red shirt who will teach me about science and show me what I can touch.**





**I can choose what I want to do while I am visiting the museum.**

**I may go into one of the museum galleries, take a tour, participate in an activity or watch a movie.**



**There are some things I can touch in the museum. The moon rock is a special artifact that everyone can touch, including me.**

**How exciting!**

**In the “How Things Fly” gallery, I can gently play with many things. These can teach me about the forces of flight.**

**If I want, I can participate in a science show!**





**I may visit the Skylab Orbital Workshop. I can walk through Skylab to see how astronauts lived in space.**

**The room can feel small. If I become uncomfortable, I can tell my adult that I want to leave at any time.**

**I may decide to watch a film in the IMAX movie theater. The theater has a very large screen!**



**If I find that the movie is too loud, I can put on my headphones or tell my adult and we can leave the theater at any time.**

**Thank you for visiting!**

