Social Narrative:

Bob Marley’s Three Little Birds

For the February 28 Sensory Friendly Performance on the UnitedHealth Group Stage at Children’s Theatre Company

Based on a story by Cedella Marley | Music and Lyrics by Bob Marley
Adapted for the stage by Michael J. Bobbitt
Directed by Shá Cage | Music Direction by Sanford Moore | Choreographed by Alanna Morris-Van Tassel
I am going to see a show at Children’s Theatre Company.
When I get there, I will walk up the long sidewalk to enter the building through the glass doors.

[The glass doors of the main entrance are shown from an angle. Through them, there is a large circular logo of Children’s Theatre Company on the wall.]
I may have to stand in line to get my ticket for the show.
When I am ready to go to the lobby, I will show an usher my ticket so they can scan it.
I will either take the elevator of the stairs to the Target Lobby.

The elevator is to the right of the ticket office. The stairs are through the glass doors towards Mia.
If I want to, I can get a drink or a snack at the concessions.

[Snack shelves and mini fridges are behind a blue counter. Signs with items and prices hang against the windows.]
If I need to go to the bathroom, I can go down the red stairs to the Men’s and Women’s bathrooms or I can use the All-Gender bathroom near the elevator.

[Top image: Doors divided by a wall partition. The left door has a Men’s sign, the right door has a Women’s sign. Bottom image: Door with a sign designating it as the All-Gender accessible bathroom]
An usher will give me a program with information about the show.

Program

[A program the size of a magazine is extended in a person’s hand.]
When I enter the theatre, I will either walk down or up some steps.

If I don’t know where my seat is, I can ask an usher or have an adult with me ask an usher.

[Two kids walk down the theatre stairs to their seats followed by two adults.]
The number on my ticket tells me where I will sit. I may need to go up the stairs to locate my seat number on the benches.

When I sit, I keep my feet on the floor and do not kick the seat in front of me.

Many people will come into the theatre and locate their seats while I wait for the show to begin.
The lights dim when the show is ready to start.

If the sounds of the show or people coming in late are too loud, I can wear ear protection or cover my ears.

I stay in my seat during the show. If I have a question, I will ask it very quietly.
Some of the sounds in the show will be loud. If they are too loud, I can cover my ears or wear ear protection.
If I need to take a break, I can go to the U.S. Bank Take-a-Break Space in the lobby. If I need to leave during the show, I move quietly out of the theatre without touching the things on stage. In the Take-a-Break Space, there are fidgets, weighted blankets, and other calming tools I can use.

[A sign with a right-pointing arrow reads “This way to CTC’s Take-a-Break Space, made possible by US Bank.”]
*Bob Marley’s Three Little Birds* takes place in Jamaica. I will hear the actors speak with a Jamaican dialect. On the map below, Jamaica is the blue island and Minneapolis is marked with a red star.
This show is about a boy named Ziggy. Fear if hurricanes and being separated from his family give Ziggy anxiety which means he feels very worried and only wants to stay inside. His mother and community encourage Ziggy to explore and make friends.

[Ziggy sits in a chair. He has dreadlocks and wears a green track suit.]
When Ziggy feels anxious or worried, I will hear his mother reassure him.

[Ziggy’s mother sings to him with her arms around him.]
I will watch Nansi play tricks on Ziggy and tease him.
I will see Duppy try to sneak up on Ziggy to steal his hair. Duppy is an evil spirit who collects the hair of children to keep him young. I will hear a chime and see the lights change every time Duppy is going to enter. If Duppy scares me, I can close my eyes or go to the U.S. Bank Take-a-Break Space.

[Ziggy sits in a chair. Behind him, Duppy approaches. Duppy is wearing stilts under his costume to make him extra tall.]
I will see actors use fans, scarves, and fabrics to portray different birds who help Ziggy and teach him about the history of Jamaica.

[Three actors dance as birds using colorful fabric to represent their wings.]
I will see Ziggy wear a lot of red underwear because it is suppose to ward off Duppy. Duppy and Nansi will come into the audience looking for more red underwear. I can wave or talk to them. I can also choose not to engage.

[Ziggy stands covered in red underwear of different styles. Nansi is next to him holding her spider.]
I will see Duppy try to sneak up on Ziggy and Nansi and chase them in the forest. I will know Duppy is about to be defeated when they get him to count to eight. I can help Ziggy and Nansi count to eight to defeat Duppy or I can choose to watch and not count along.

[Duppy kneels at the front of the stage. He is snarling.]
When the show is over, I can clap and cheer when the actors come out on stage to bow.

If the clapping is too loud, I can wear ear protection or cover my ears.

[Audience members smile and clap in their seats.]
When the actors leave the stage, I wait in line to leave the theatre. I can wait in my seat if I want to wait for the crowd to leave before I leave.

I’ll walk out of Children’s Theatre Company the same way I came in. I can talk about the show as soon as the show ends.

[Audience members walk up the stairs of the theatre.]
This season’s Sensory Friendly programming is made possible by

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[US Bank Logo: “US” is in a red banner next to “bank” in blue lowercase letters. Beneath is their slogan, “the power of possible.” ‘Power’ and ‘possible’ are in uppercase letters. ‘The’ and ‘of’ are in lowercase italics.]

[Fraser logo: Next to a navy star it reads “Fraser” in all capital letters.]

[AUSM logo: large lowercase letters spell “ausm;” beneath in lowercase letters: Autism Society of Minnesota.”]