We are going to visit the Glazer Children's Museum
NOTES FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

This page and the following page contain information for adults. The remaining pages can be reviewed with children prior to visiting the museum, so they will have advance knowledge of the rules and potential sensory issues.

See these links for location, hours, rules and other important information prior to visiting the Glazer Children’s Museum:
Plan My Visit [http://glazermuseum.org/plan-my-visit/](http://glazermuseum.org/plan-my-visit/)

The most important thing to remember about your child is the type and color of shoes she or he is wearing. Museum staff have radio communication, and can more easily look for a lost child using a description of his or her shoes.

VISUAL SYMBOLS WILL APPEAR ON PAGES WITH EXHIBITS THAT MAY PRESENT CHALLENGES:

**AUDITORY and VISUAL** The hand dryers and automatic flushing toilets in the restrooms can be very loud for some individuals, even typically developing children. The Family Rest Room, located on Level 1, have hand towels available, if you need to avoid the dryers.

The Rain or Shine activity in Kidsport area creates some flashing lightning and very loud storm sounds.

**TOUCH** Children may get wet, or there may be potential for positive or negative sensory experiences.

**SHARING & WAITING** – Several exhibits have items that children love to play with, and may be reluctant to give up. In these areas, children may need to be prepared for limited play time or a wait for some of the more popular items.

**AGE REQUIREMENTS** – The Glazer Museum encourages parents and caregivers to help children understand rules about age requirements. These rules are in place for reasons of age appropriateness, as well as the safety of all children visiting the museum. If you feel strongly that a child in your party needs an exception to these rules, please speak with a museum staff member to arrange for proper supervision.
SUNSHINE SUNDAY
Sunshine Sunday is an award-winning program that gives children with special needs and their families exclusive museum access from 10am-12:30pm, on the last Sunday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Lights and sounds are turned down, and a ‘no-judgment’ zone is in effect. Register online at glazermuseum.org or call us at 813-443-3821.
Quick sensory/rules guide to the Glazer Children’s Museum

General rules:
• No food or drink in the exhibit areas
• Children must be accompanied and supervised by adults at all times
• No running or rough playing

FIRST LEVEL
Tugboat Tots – Ages 0-3 only.
Kidsport – No climbing or getting in the water. Watch for sharing issues, especially with the balls.
Cruise ship – Shoes off, socks on while playing in the special “sand”, no climbing on the cruise ship piloting area.
Water’s Journey – Ages 3 and up only. Needs high supervision. It starts on Level 2, and midway on Level 1.5. It is possible for children to emerge on a different level than where adults are waiting. Tell children: don’t go on stairs without adult.
Telemundo Tampa Exhibit Hall – Exhibits change frequently. Check the museum’s web site for current information.

SECOND LEVEL
Airplane – This is a virtual flying experience. Children can choose from several cities to fly over while “piloting” their plane. There are often times when children may need to be prepared to share or wait a while to have access to the pilot’s seat.
My House Your House This may be a place to go if children are becoming overwhelmed. Children and adults can sit and relax here. In the theater area, some children may have sensory issues with costumes that go over their heads. Children can choose capes or other draping costumes instead.
Engineer’s Workshop – Sometimes children enjoy playing here a long time, especially in the road and highway-building area. It might help to make a visit to the restroom prior to entering this area. Adults may also want to be aware there is a spiral staircase in this area that leads to an upper area with more activities. There is also another set of stairs nearby leading back to the floor level.
Design + Build – Lots of hands-on activities. Potential sharing issues with toy cars and trucks. Tots construction is for ages 0-3 only, and has a ball pit that may be attractive for older children.
Firehouse – Children must be 40” high to play on some of the equipment here. The firefighter costumes are very popular, and children may need to limit play time or wait for them to be available.
Art Smart – The mirror ball in the dance floor might be visually over-stimulating for some children.
RULES
I can not explore the museum alone. I must stay with my adults, and they must stay with me.
I can not have food or drinks in the exhibit areas. I can enjoy food or drinks at Subway, or outside in the park.
No one is allowed to smoke, including e-cigarettes, while at the museum.
I can not play rough or run. I can play nice, and walk calmly in the museum.
I can not say bad words. If I am frustrated, I can tell an adult, “I need help”.
It is OKAY to touch, explore and play!
It is OKAY to ask LOTS of questions!
It is OKAY to talk to the people who work at the museum. They all wear vests and have name tags.

RULES FOR GROUPS
One adult required for every 10 children.
Adults must stay with children at all times while in the museum.
Museum staff may correct inappropriate behavior, in a positive way.
Maybe we will have to wait in line to buy our tickets. It will be OK. I can read a book or play a game while we are waiting. First, I can wait to get our tickets, then I can go play in the museum!
This area is for little kids. If I am older than 3, I am too big. I can find another area to play in!

Shoes come off, socks stay on in the special “sand” of the island! I can put my shoes back on later.

I can explore the sand and maybe find some buried treasure!

I will stay safe and not climb on the ship display.
If there are too many kids playing, we can see other parts of the museum and come back to Kidsport later.

Sometimes I will need to share balls or wait my turn for an activity. It will be OK! Everyone will have more fun if we share.

I will not climb on water tanks or get into the water. Getting in the water or splashing water out of the tanks is not OK! I can do lots of other fun things with water in the Kidsport area.

If I play with the Rain or Shine experience, the storm might be very loud, and the lightning flashes might be very bright! I might get wet.

After I am all done, I can clean my hands.
It is OK to climb here if I am age 3 or older!

I will climb very carefully. Adults will watch me closely to be sure I climb safely and go all the way through Water’s Journey.

I will only come out where my adults are waiting for me. I will not go on the stairs without a grown up.
The airplane is lots of fun. Maybe I will have to wait my turn, and let other kids have their turn when I get to play with it.

What is this thing!? It’s an air cannon!

Hit the soft red part while a friend stands on the other end.

Poof! A little puff of air comes out!

It’s fun. It doesn’t hurt, we can’t see it, and it is not too loud.
I can come here if other areas are very noisy, and I need a quiet place to play or take a break for a while.

We can play with costumes in the Twinkle Stars Theater. There might be bright, colorful lights and sound effects.

Maybe we will have to share costumes. If I don’t like to put on clothes, some costumes are like capes – I don’t have to put them over my head.
Maybe we will have to share some toys.

Playing with cars and trucks is lots of fun. Maybe I can go to the restroom first, so I can play a long time.

I can make my own paper airplane and fly it.

The place for flying my paper airplane is not for climbing! I can climb the stairs for more activities.
There are lots of things we can do in Design + Build.

Tots Construction is just for little kids ages 3 and under.
I can pretend to be a customer, a person who puts things on shelves, or a cashier.

We can pretend to be a chef, a server or a customer in a restaurant.

The food is pretend, not real.
VET CLINIC

We can pretend we are vets and help some animals feel better. Maybe we will see different animals on our next visit.

HEALTH CLINIC

I can learn about my body, learn how to stay healthy, and see some things I might see at a hospital or doctor’s office.
I must be at least 5 years old, and I must have an adult with me.

I can put on a fireman suit and slide down the pole!

It is important to share the firemen’s suits with our friends so everybody can have fun!

Learn about money and having a bank account. Earn “money” by answering questions or doing simple activities – then “spend” it to make something happen like powering a train, launching a rocket, or lighting up City Hall!
I can have lots of art fun. I can make a noodle sculpture, create my own kaleidoscope, write with light, disguise play with face paint or just dance!

Bright lights mirror, loud music
I can test my strength, my speed, and how much I can exercise. I can climb the climbing wall and race the hare and tortoise on the wall.

I can be on TV as part of a sports team.

Sports are a great way to exercise and be healthy!
See how TV news and weather reports are done.

Talk and communicate in many different ways!
When we are all done with our visit to the Glazer Children’s Museum, it will be time to go.

Maybe we can come again another day.

We will say goodbye to the nice people. “See you next time!”
Created for The Glazer Children’s Museum
by

The University of South Florida
Center for Autism and Related Disabilities
1-800-333-4530
813-974-2532
http://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu