



## Theatre Etiquette

Please let all children know in advance what behavior is expected during a live performance. Unlike television or the movies, the performers on stage are right there in that moment — dancing for the audience’s pleasure. Any noise distracts them. The performance will be exciting, but let children know that they will be required to sit quietly in their seats for a fairly long period of time.

No food, drink, chewing gum, cameras or recording equipment are allowed inside the theatre. Please leave these items at home as we are unable to provide secure storage at the theatre.

It is important to accompany all children to the restroom before the performance begins. It is inappropriate to visit the restrooms during a live performance, unless there is an emergency, in which case an usher will provide assistance.

We recommend providing children with some guidelines of things to look and listen for during the performance. You may also want to encourage children to add to these suggestions:

Children are encouraged to:

- Watch the dancers.
- Listen to the music.
- Look at the costumes, sets and props.
- Watch for changing in lighting.
- Laugh when they see the dancers doing something funny.
- Clap when the dancing has finished to show dancers they are enjoying the performance. It is also customary to applaud when the dancers take a bow.

Children (as well as adults) should not:

- Talk or make noises that might cause them or other members of the audience to miss something important.
- Chew gum or eat food because this is not allowed.
- Leave your seat before the lights go on because this is very disruptive to the performers and other audience members.
- Bring cellphones, cameras, iPods, or headphones to the theatre because this is disruptive to the dancers and other members of the audience.
- Record or photograph any part of the performance.