



# Middletown Arts Center Social Story

I will be visiting the Middletown Arts Center to see artwork and interact with small, guided art projects.

The artwork I will see could include paintings, drawings, pottery, jewelry, photographs, and other things that have been created by an artist.



## Entering the building

For this event the Middletown Arts Center will open at 9:30am. The event will end at 12:00pm. I am welcome to stay for as long as I like during the event.

When I get to the Middletown Arts Center, I will enter through two glass doors. If I use the front door, there is a button I can push if I need help opening the door. There will be someone to open the door for me if I decide to use the back entrance to the arts center and I need help.



## Exploring the artwork

When I enter the building, I will be located in the Lobby Gallery. This is a room with carpet that has artwork being displayed in different ways. Some of the artwork will be hanging on the wall and some of the other artwork will be displayed on blocks or in cases.

To the left of the front door is the Main Exhibition Hall. This is the largest gallery at the arts center and it has high ceilings and wood floors. Artwork will also be displayed in a variety of ways in this room for me to see.



## How to act around artwork

Someone worked really hard to create these things at the arts center. This means I should not touch the artwork. In order to explore artwork that has been created by other artists, I should try to stay at least an arm's length away from the artwork.

When looking at artwork, there are different ways to explore it without touching. A lot of people use artwork to communicate, or speak, without using words. Art is a great way to think and show ideas without having to talk. I can look at the artwork and decide how it makes me feel or what it makes me think about. I understand that anyone can create art.



# People at the arts center

While I'm visiting the Middletown Arts Center, I can expect for a variety of people and families to be visiting at the same time that I am visiting. Usually people try to use talking-volume voices at the arts center, but if I have to make sounds or talk a little louder to communicate, that is okay, too. The people at the Middletown Arts Center understand and are there to make sure I have a good experience during my visit.

If I feel like I need a safe space to calm down during my visit, the people who work at the arts center can show me a special place they have for me and others who need a calming space. It's okay to take some time for me.



## Guided art activities



While I am visiting the Middletown Arts Center, I will be able to work on art activities. Doing these activities helps me to see the process that other artists go through to make artwork. Anyone can be an artist!

I can decide to use my hands to create art at these activity stations or I can watch other people make art. It's okay if I start to complete the activity and then decide I don't want to do it anymore. I can take my project with me or I can leave it behind if I don't want to have it anymore. I can give my art to someone else to enjoy or keep it to enjoy on my own. Art is for everyone.



## Main Exhibition Hall



This is the largest gallery at the arts center. When I go into this room, I will see that the ceiling is high and there are different kinds of lights. For a sensory friendly event, I understand that the lights will be lower than usual. I will see signs that remind me not to touch artwork in this room.

In this room there will be lots of artwork. I will see different colors and patterns. There will be big blocks that have artwork on top of them. I remember that I should not touch the artwork so that other people can look at it too. In this room my voice will echo if I'm loud and I might hear other people enjoying artwork, too.

Borrow these at front desk!



## Lobby Gallery

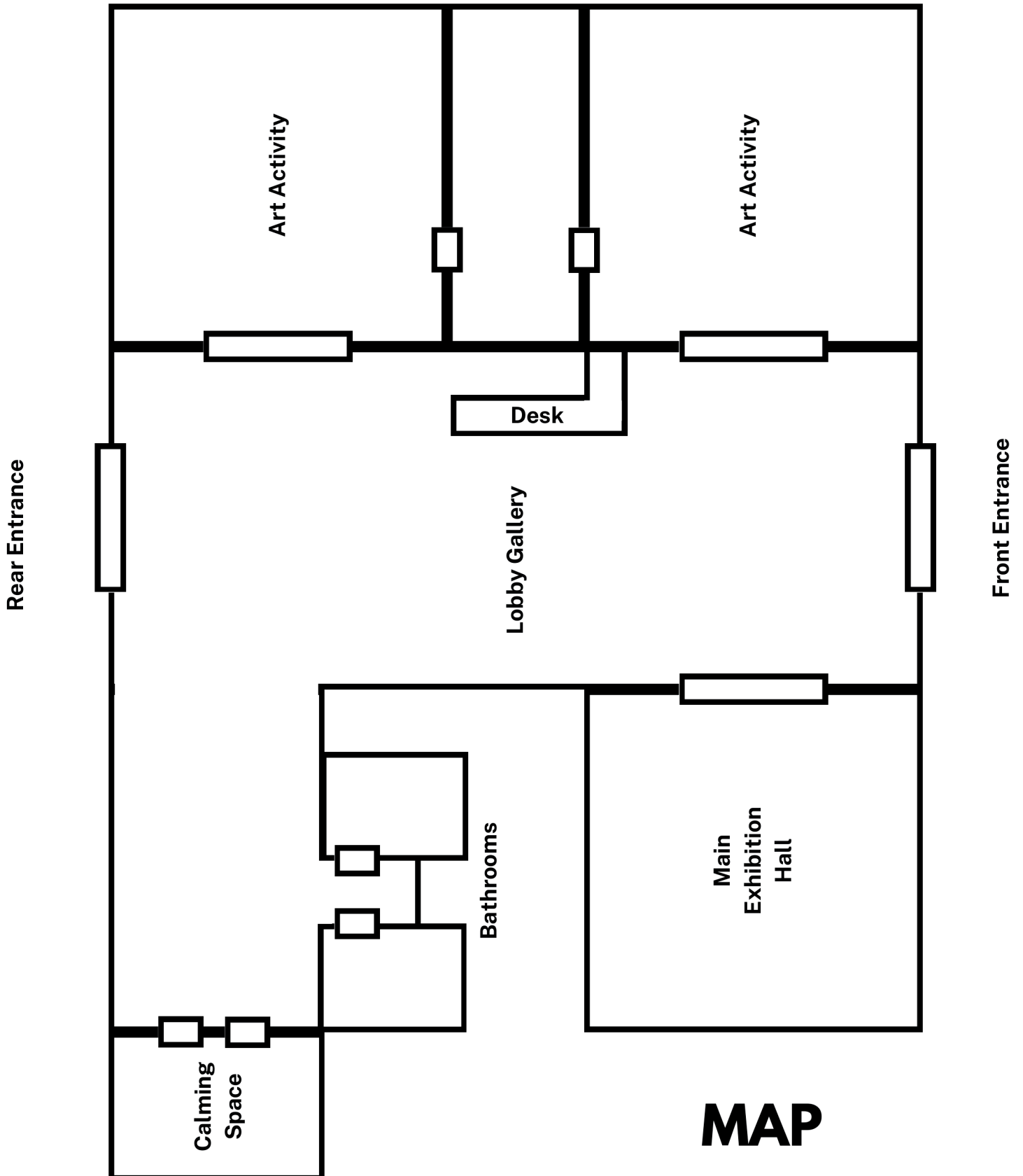


The Lobby Gallery is the smaller art gallery that I am in when I enter the building. There are places for me to sit like benches and chairs, and I can also explore artwork in this room. It is possible that there will be more people in this room than the other rooms since it is also the entrance.

If I go to the desk in this room, someone will greet me. They might ask me if I need help or tell me something about the arts center. If I would like to borrow noise-cancelling headphones or sunglasses, this is where I can get them. The people who work at the arts center can help me with getting headphones or sunglasses to borrow while I'm here if I need them.



# Middletown Arts Center



**MAP**



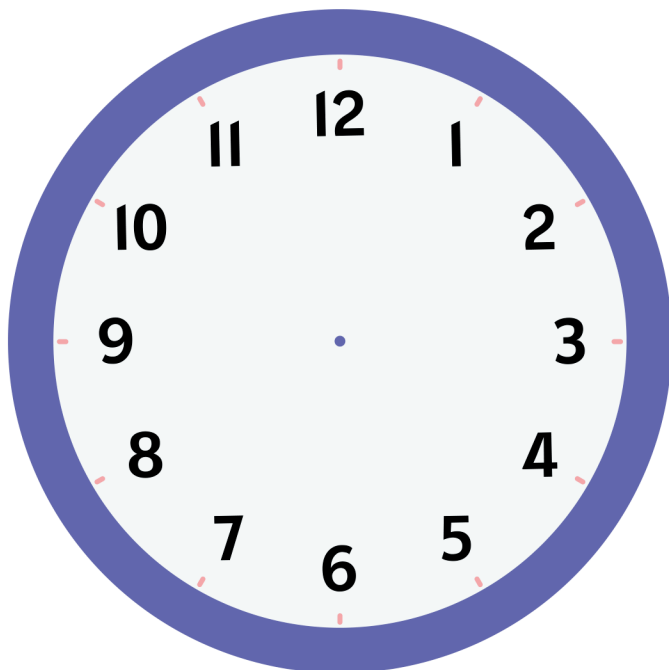


# My visit to the Middletown Arts Center

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be visiting the Middletown Arts Center on  
\_\_\_\_\_.

I will be leaving for  
the arts center at



I will be traveling to  
the arts center by

☐

Vehicle

☐

Bus

☐

Walking

☐

Another  
way

The Middletown Arts  
Center is a place I can  
explore art. Here I can  
draw a picture of myself  
having fun with art.

