

I am going to see Aladdin



It is a pantomime, which is a special kind of show where there is talking, singing and dancing. It is very lively and the audience are allowed to join in by clapping, shouting, booing and singing. The story will be told by people on the stage who are called actors.



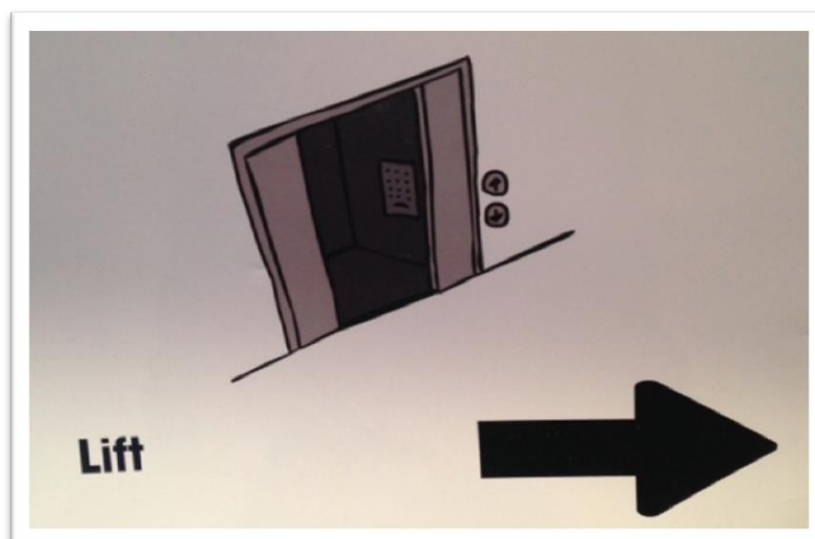
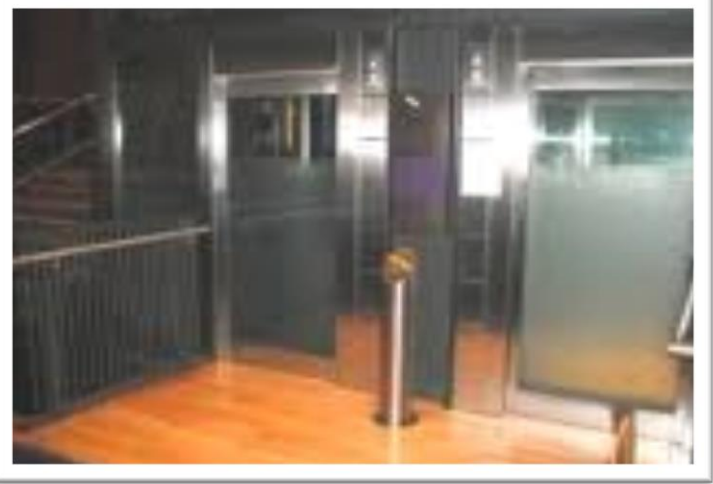
When I arrive at the theatre, there will be a big sign outside and the front of the building will look like this:



It may be a bit busy when I arrive at the theatre as lots of people want to see the show! I may have to queue or wait to go in.



The stairs may be difficult for me, so I could use the ramp, as well as lifts to get around the theatre.



There will be lots of people working at Birmingham Hippodrome who will be able to help me if I need it. They will be wearing sparkly hats.



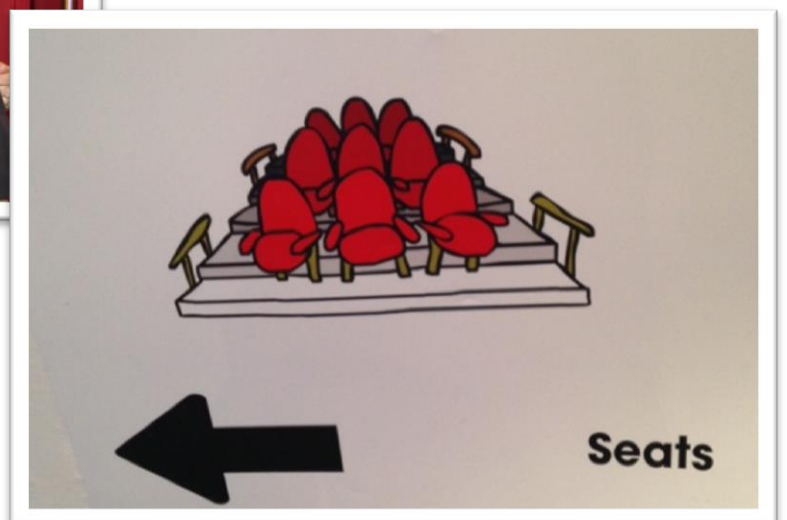
If I need to use the toilet, I can ask the person I'm with or there will be signs to show me the way.



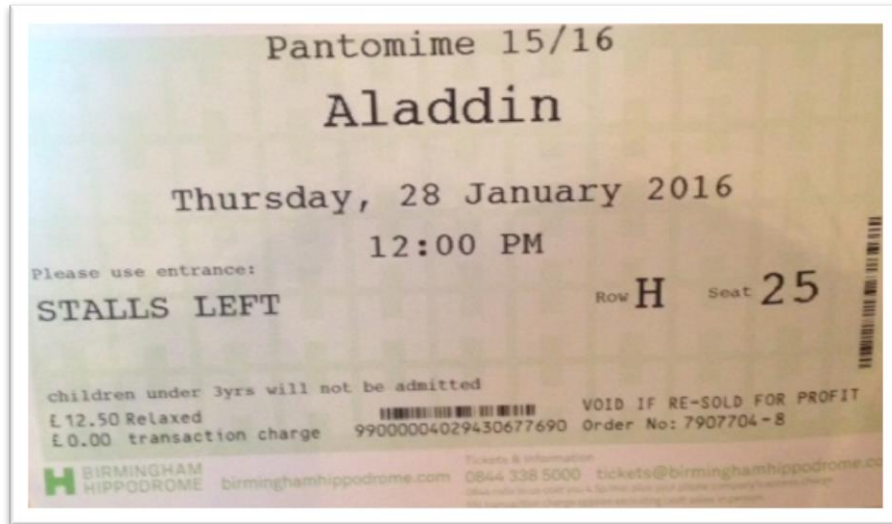
We will then go inside the theatre. It is very big and there are lots of seats!



A person wearing a sparkly hat will look at our tickets and tell us which seats to go to.



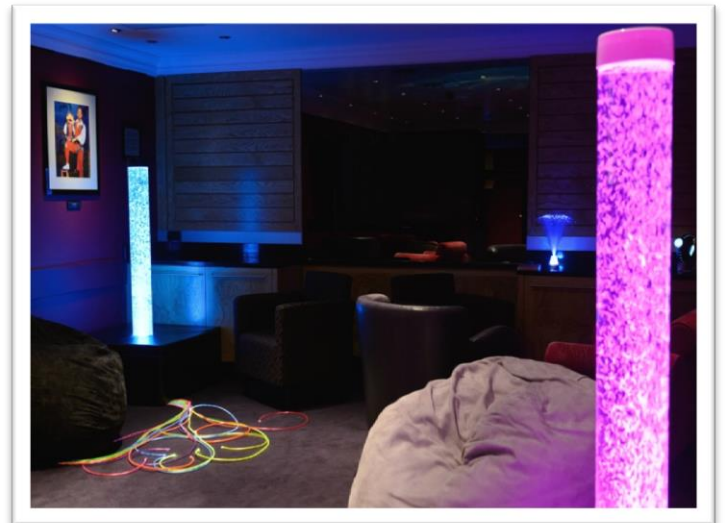
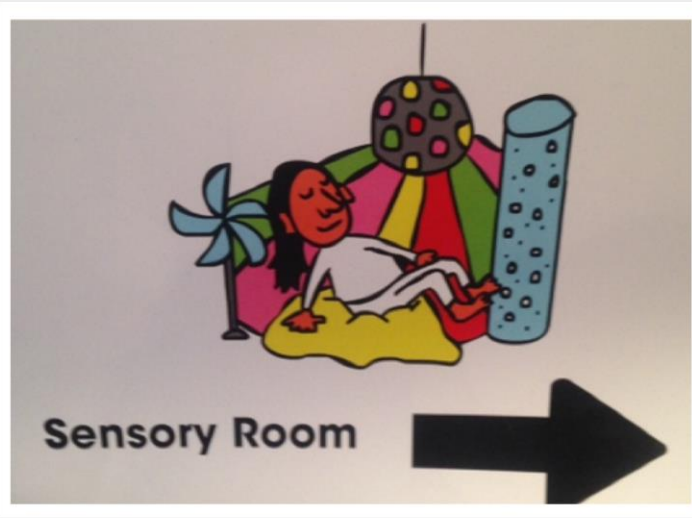
The numbers and letters on our tickets tell us where to sit; it is not a choice.



When the show starts I will hear music and singing. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, or put on my ear defenders. There will also be some bright lights. If it is too bright, I can cover my eyes or wear my tinted glasses.



If I want to leave the auditorium at any point, the doors will be open and there are quieter rooms where I can go to relax and play. There might be other people in those rooms.



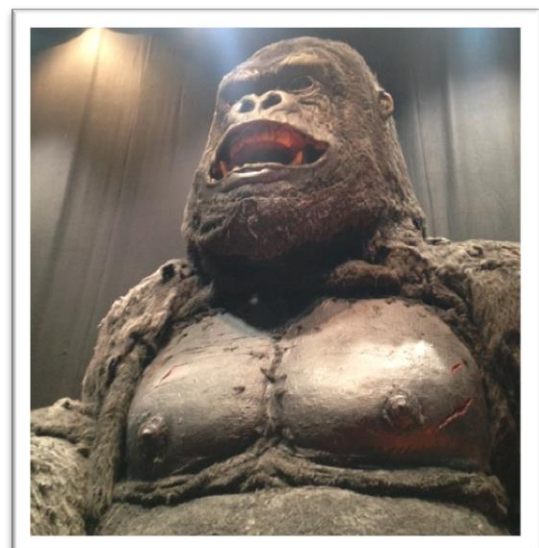
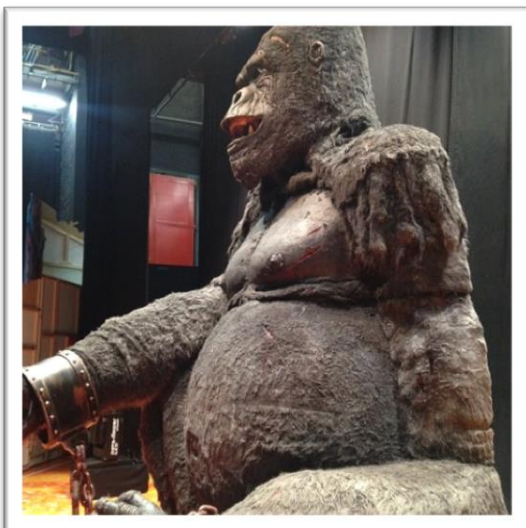
The first person I will see on stage will be Abanazar. If I feel afraid or nervous, I can cover my eyes.

The character is nasty, but he is not real and won't hurt me. He is an actor playing the part and pretending.

Members of the audience may Boo and Hiss at Abanazar so that he knows they don't like him. I can join in if I want to – it's fun.



There is also a big Gorllia called Kong. He comes onto the stage and speaks in a very loud voice. He is not real and is only on stage for a short time.

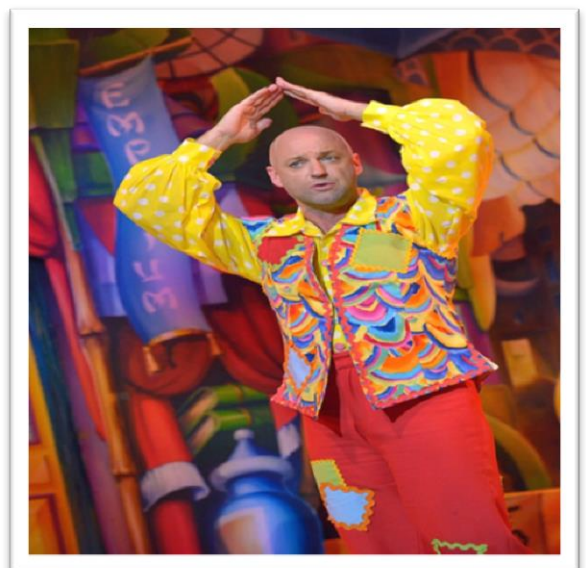
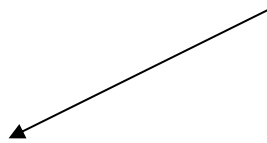


If I am afraid I can cover my eyes.

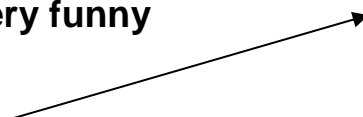


I will see other characters on stage played by different actors

This is Aladdin

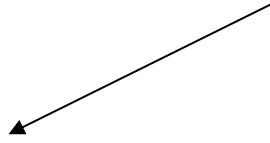


This is Wishee Washee, he is very funny

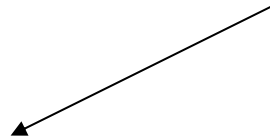




This is the Slave of the Ring



This is Widow Twankey



I will have a lot of fun at the show! There will be lots of singing and dancing.

During the first half of the pantomime, some of the characters ride on a magic carpet. The carpet turns upside down. But don't worry the actors are safe, they will not fall, this is just a special affect.

Half way through the performance we will have a break. This is called the interval.



During the break, all of the lights will go on and people will leave the seats to get a drink or to go to the toilet. There will be signs to show me where to go.



The interval lasts for about 20 minutes but it may be longer. There will be announcements over the loudspeaker to tell me how long there is left in the interval.

In the interval, I will need to collect my 3D glasses from someone in a sparkly hat to wear in the second half of the performance.



When the interval has finished, everyone will come back to their seats and sit down again. It will get darker and quieter again, just like at the beginning of the show. The actors will come back on the stage and finish telling the story of Aladdin.

The Slave of the Ring will tell me when to put my 3D glasses on. I will only need to wear them when he tells me, not all of the time.

When I am wearing the glasses it will feel as if I am on a magic carpet ride and it will seem as if things are coming towards me, but they are not. It is safe. Nothing will hurt me. It is just the glasses that make it feel like this.

If I do not like it, I can take my special glasses off and I can cover my ears.



When Aladdin and Princess Jasmine get ready for their wedding. Wishee Washee sings a special song and these are the words. I can learn this words so that I can join in. They are very silly words and if I get them muddled up, it can make me say rude words!

One smart fellow he felt smart
Two smart fellows they felt smart
Three smart fellows they felt smart
They all felt smart together



When the story has finished, all of the actors will come out on stage. This is the end of the show. Everyone will clap a lot so the actors know how much they liked Aladdin.



I will then leave Birmingham Hippodrome and go home, or back to school or college. I will be given a special sticker by a person in a sparkly hat to say that I have been flying with Aladdin!