

# Social Story



## Braving the River

By Juana  
Parral +  
devised with  
the cast/crew



Touring  
Philadelphia  
April 3rd -  
May 5th



A Sensory Play

I am going to see a play.  
The play is called "Braving the  
River: A sensory play"

A sensory play means that it is  
interactive and that there will  
be things to touch and feel.

A play is like a movie.  
The people onstage before me  
are called actors.  
They are pretending to be the  
different characters to tell a  
story.

This play is about two kids named Bodie and Sumit. Bodie lives in the land of the quiet and Sumit lives in the land of the loud. They both want to change the world. Bodie and Sumit come to life with personalities and have things that they like and don't like, just like me.

The play begins with an opening song! I can move and dance during this song.



The play is split into three different parts. In the first part, we follow Sumit as she tries to figure out how to get over her fear of water. She talks to her dad, the silly Loudness Monster, and a Fortune Teller.

I can help the characters throughout the show by using my interactive props when asked to by the characters.

In the second part, we follow Bodie as he tries to get over his fear of water. He talks to his mom, and then is led to a Guard. Bodie sings a song to the Guard in this part of the show.

I can help the characters throughout the show by using my interactive props when asked to by the characters.

In the third part, Bodie and Sumit interact with each other as they work to get over their fear together. They meet on an island that lives between their two lands!

I can help Bodie and Sumit by using my interactive props when asked to by the characters.

At the end of the show, I will be invited onstage for a bubble dance party! I can choose to go onstage or dance in my spot!





The first thing that will happen when I go to see the play is that someone will show me to my seat and hand me a special box filled with different sensory objects.



I do need to be gentle with the objects because they were made by kids, just like me. And at the end of the show, they will be given back to the people who handed them out. I also may need to share these objects with other kids.

I also may not want to touch an object or there may be one that I love to touch! That is okay. I can play with one object the whole time and not touch others. It is all up to me about whether or not I want to touch an object.

The actors will sometimes come out into the audience to help us find different objects and talk to us. It is up to me whether I want to talk back.

The lights will be up the entire time,  
and will not change. There will be  
light music playing in the space  
when I enter.

I will know the show is about to  
begin when the light music stops  
playing and Sarah comes onto the  
stage to tell us the show is going to  
start!



Sarah

Sarah will tell us about the invitations to use the sensory objects, that the show will start with a Hello Song, and that we are invited to get up and move, make noise, and take a break at any time during the play!

The actors use different props and set pieces to tell the story.

These props and set pieces cannot hurt me.

In this show, I will see the actors changing costumes on stage, this means they are changing  
**CHARACTER.**

If I need to take a break at any time or use the bathroom, I will tell my grown-up and anyone from Philly Children's Theatre can direct me to where I can take a break away from the show or where to find the restrooms.

I can also put on sensory headphones if needed at any point if I brought some from home, or play with any tools brought from home that help me.

I can react to the show by laughing, clapping, and making noise.

There will be many times throughout the play where the characters invite me to make noises with them- and I am welcome to join in!





If it does get too loud that I cannot hear the actors, the actors will show the quiet coyote sign to remind the audience to be a little quieter.

There will be some loud noises when the characters have passionate conversations. If it gets too loud for me, I can cover my ears at any time or put on sensory headphones.

Even though the noise can be loud and scary, the sounds cannot hurt me.

I will know that the play is ending when the actors invite us onstage for the Bubble Dance Party and then say goodbye.

The actors will bow. I can clap for them to let them know I enjoyed the show!



At the end of the show, I will have to give the bag back with all the sensory items so they can be used for the next family and performance.

I can tell all my friends and family about what I saw at Philly Children's Theatre.



My friends at Philly Children's Theatre hope that you had fun at the show!  
Thank you for coming!