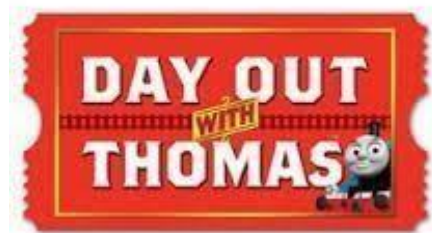




Sensory-Friendly Saturday in Greenfield Village with Thomas the Tank Engine®



*A welcoming experience for families
with autism...*

The Henry Ford in conjunction with the Autism Alliance of Michigan's MiNavigator offer the opportunity for families to come and experience an activity where staff members are trained in autism recognition, communication, and response.

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My Day Out With Thomas



I can't wait for **Saturday, May 2nd**! I get to go to Greenfield Village at The Henry Ford. I get to go see **Thomas the Tank Engine**. I love trains so much. I hope I get to ride on Thomas while I am there.



Thomas will have friends at the event, like Sir Topham Hatt®! He is one of my favorite friends. There will also be Thomas stories told and train rides!

Follow the Rules!

My parents go over the Greenfield Village rules one more time when we get there:



1. Stay with my parents at ALL times.



2. Walk only-no running.



3. No touching anything without my parents' permission.



4. No climbing on anything unless my parents say it is ok.



5. If I get lost, I go to the place my mom and dad tell me to wait. I can also find a worker at Greenfield Village and give them my mom or dad's phone number.

It was a 20-minute walk from where I came in to get to Thomas. Now I will have to wait in line at Smiths Creek Station.



There will be a lot of people standing close to me in lines at Greenfield Village and waiting for Thomas. I have to keep my space from people as best as I can. I should not touch, shove, or yell at other people. If I get too bothered, I need to tell my mom or dad that I need a break.



I am frustrated! I have to be patient while waiting for my turn to ride on Thomas. I will probably have to wait about 30 minutes—that's one half an hour! But it will be worth the wait.



Yay, here comes Thomas!



The train will be loud when it blows its whistle! The engineer is also very loud and the bell is loud too. I can't forget my earplugs or headphones.



I also may smell smoke from the smokestack on the train. Other smells are animal smells and food smells. The smells might be very strong to my nose.



Thomas is ready!!! I'm so excited it is time to get on Thomas. I will walk carefully on the steps to get onto Thomas. There are lots of people and someone could get hurt if we hurry.



The rail cars have open sides and I have to keep my hands, feet, and body **INSIDE** the car and stay in my seat...this will keep me safe when the train is moving. I will be very excited on the train, but have to remember to not shout near other people—it might hurt their ears.



(Time Timer® visual timer)

My ride will last about 20 minutes on Thomas.

My turn to ride Thomas is over. I thank the conductor and engineer and carefully walk off from Thomas the Tank Engine.



I am sad the ride is over, but had such a great time riding on Thomas. I am happy when I think about coming back next year and riding on Thomas again! My parents will take a picture of Thomas so that I can look at it anytime I want to remember my visit.



Some kids will not ride on Thomas because they did not want to, they may be scared to, or they may not have gotten a ticket for some other reason. That is ok. Some people will get to ride Thomas and other people will not.

It is time to go do other fun things at Greenfield Village.



Good-bye until next time...



Thank you for coming!