



# A Parent's Guide to Sensory-Friendly Performances

## Go, Dog. Go!



Saturday, April 15 at 3:00 p.m.

# Go, Dog. Go!

## Find Out Where They're Going....

The beloved children's book by P.D. Eastman comes to life in a zany, Vaudeville-inspired adventure. These dogs are busy going to and fro, riding scooters, driving cars and zooming around the world on their way to a special party. This madcap, musical escapade will have little ones dancing in their seats and cheering **"Go, Dog. Go!"**



# A Bit About Sensory-Friendly Performances at Children's Theatre of Charlotte

Sensory-Friendly theatre is an approach to the audience experience that “softens” the environment. What does that mean exactly? Well, in general, we want to make the theatre available to everyone, including those who may need more flexibility to help manage all of the sensory experiences that come along with attending a performance.

**Here are some of the adjustments Children's Theatre of Charlotte is making to create a more sensory-friendly environment tailored to each show:**

- Lights in the theatre will stay low during the show, instead of turning all the way off.
- The sound levels will be lowered when needed.
- Fewer tickets will be sold for the sensory-friendly performances so families have more room to move as needed.
- Fidgets, headphones, and weighted toys will be available to help children feel more organized and settled.
- Someone will be toward the front of the stage with glow sticks to help give families a warning when sensory-rich moments are coming up. Raising one light means there's a smaller sensory moment coming up (like a loud sound or a change in lighting).
- A quiet room will be available if children need to leave the theatre to feel more settled or regroup during the show.

We've also provided several guides to help prepare your family for your visit to Children's Theatre of Charlotte - a visit guide that walks your family through our facility, a child guide to go with each performance, and a coordinating parent guide like this one to help parents support their children's learning and experience in the theatre. We want you to have the opportunity to enjoy the theatre with your family, so with that, please enjoy the show!

*Yours truly,  
Your friends at Children's Theatre of Charlotte*

# Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments in *Go, Dog. Go!*



“Go, Dog. Go!” is such a fun show! Get ready to meet the dogs and join them on their adventures!

*How do the dogs act like dogs, and how do they act more like us?*

**Sensory-rich moments: This show is full of sound effects, movement, music, and fun as it brings this book to life!**



Who is this friend? He seems to be lost, but wait until you see what happens next!

*Who can help us when we need to figure out where to go?*

**Sensory-rich moments: The show opens with a movie and credits, silent film style! The opening character also comes through the audience, trying to find his seat with a flashlight.**



“Dog. Big dog. Little dog. Big dogs and little dogs. Black and white dogs.” Can you remember the rest?

*How do we help children learn different ways to describe what they see?*

**Sensory-rich moments: The dogs come onto the stage riding different vehicles and making a variety of sounds.**



Meet Hattie! Do you like her hat?  
*How do we teach children to be honest  
and kind at the same time?*

**Sensory-rich moments: Activity, music, and lights shift during this part of the scene, and then it resumes and moves into a transition to the next scene.**



“A red dog on a blue tree. A blue dog on a red tree. A green dog on a yellow tree.” What happens to Yellow Dog?

*Children learn new words when they can see and hear the differences in objects around them.*

**Sensory-rich moments: There are light shifts and music/singing, and Yellow Dog makes loud appearances here.**



“Dogs at work. Work, dogs, work!” How will these dogs work?

*How do children use their imaginations and build their creativity?*

**Sensory-rich moments: This is a very active scene with dancing, music, and making music and noises with tools.**



After all of that hard work, it's time for lunch!  
*What do we do to make sure everyone has enough to eat?*

**Sensory-rich moments:** This scene includes tossing lunch boxes, one dog begging for food, and dancing around the stage. The scene ends with a big set transition with lots of movement and noise.



"Dogs at play. Play, dogs, play!"  
*How do we encourage our children to play together?*

**Sensory-rich moments:** This is an active and interactive scene where the audience gets to play with inflatable balls with the dogs.



Lots of dogs like to swim, but what else do you think these dogs will do in the water?

*Here's another great creative moment for kids to use their imaginations!*

**Sensory-rich moments:** This scene is visually stimulating and has dancing and music.



"Three dogs at a party on a boat at night."  
*We can have fun in all kinds of places!*  
**Sensory-rich moment: There is singing with instruments in this scene, followed by a somewhat busy scene transition.**



"It is time for sleep. The dogs go to sleep. They will sleep all night." But will they?  
*What strategies do we use to help our kids sleep at night?*

**Sensory-rich moments: The activity level builds throughout this scene to end with lots of movement and chaotic playing at the end, leading into the transition to the next scene.**



What have we learned so far about the dogs' adventures? Blue Dog is going to help us out!  
*Children build language and knowledge when they see and hear them over and over.*  
**Sensory-rich moments: This scene starts with Blue Dog by herself and a little scared and sad. Then the scene transitions into a more active scene.**



“Some big dogs and some little dogs going around in cars.”

“Look at those dogs go. Go, dogs. Go!”  
*Can dogs really drive cars? There goes that imagination again.....*

**Sensory-rich moments:** This scene has lots of activity with dogs driving cars, one car breaking down with a dry ice effect, and singing and dancing before a busy transition into the final scene.



We don't want to ruin the surprise, but wait until you see what's happening under this tree! Do you think Hattie will finally have a hat that the other dog likes?

*Parties are so fun - what's your child's favorite part of this party?*

**Sensory-rich moments:** This final scene has lots of movement, singing, and dancing. There is a small confetti effect on stage at the end, and then the cast exits the show through the audience.



**Thanks for joining us at Children's Theatre of Charlotte for this special performance!**

**Visit us at [ctcharlotte.org](http://ctcharlotte.org) for more information about other sensory-friendly performances available to you and your family this year!**