

Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation® Social Narrative



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LEGEND



There are bright
lights here



There are loud
sounds here



It might be
crowded here



There is no
climbing here



There is no
running here

WELCOME

The Henry Ford and the Autism Alliance of Michigan have put together this social narrative to help prepare us for our visit to Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation.

The museum is very large. There are many interesting things to see and do. Many people visit the museum every day. During our visit, we should find the exhibits that are most interesting to us and be careful not to damage any items so that others can enjoy them, too.



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When we enter the **Welcome Center** entrance, we will see a replica of the Wright Flyer overhead. This was the first successful powered airplane. There may be crowds of people in the Welcome Center. We may have to wait in line to buy tickets. It will only take a few moments. Visitors who have memberships will be able to bypass the line and enter the museum faster.

There are restrooms at the front of the museum. We should visit the restroom now to save time later.

There may be a line for the **Giant Screen Experience**. This is a movie theater. Like at the movies, there is a concession stand with snacks and there are movies playing each day.





The **Museum Store** is at the front of the building. There are many interesting items in the store. The store also has lots of breakable items. The lights are bright and music is playing.

Before we enter the museum, we will have to show the person at the counter our tickets. Get ready! They can stamp our hand in case we want to leave and come back later.

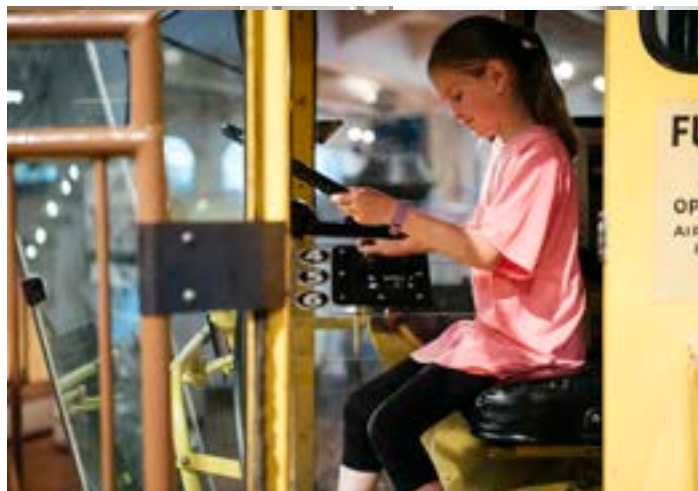


AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

In the **Agriculture and the Environment** exhibit, we can see tractors, plows and other farming equipment. There are lots of artifacts on display. Remember that there is no climbing and no running in this exhibit. However, there is one machine that we can climb up on. It is the **1975 Sperry-New Holland Combine**.

After climbing the stairs up into the combine, **we can steer the wheel, push the buttons and imagine that we are farmers.** Remember that only two people will fit into the cab of the combine at a time so we will have to wait our turn.

We will see a vehicle near the Agriculture and the Environment exhibit that is shaped like a hot dog. This is called the **Wienermobile**.



FULLY FURNISHED

Fully Furnished has **kitchens, furniture from the past and even dollhouses**. This is a quiet area with lots to look at. There is no climbing in this exhibit. There are video screens that we can touch and watch videos on to learn more about different pieces of furniture.



MATHEMATICA

Near the Fully Furnished exhibit is **Mathematica**. Here, we can learn about math and try out a number of different hands-on activities. It may be crowded in this exhibit, with lots of other people also doing the activities. We may have to wait in line to try the activities. While in the exhibit, we may hear the sound of balls falling through the **probability machine** on display.



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MADE IN AMERICA- MANUFACTURING

In this exhibit, we can see objects related to manufacturing. We can watch a video to learn about the assembly line and can see two **Model T cars** (one that shows the different parts of the car and one that is all put together).



MADE IN AMERICA-POWER

Next we're off to see the steam engines. On the weekends, the **Corliss Steam Engine** is demonstrated, and it makes a very loud sound when the steam escapes. We can also hear the swooshing sounds of the wheel starting.

If we love lights, we can look for the light bulbs. We can take a turn making electricity to light these light bulbs at the **Tower of Power**. It takes a lot of effort, and the noise gets louder the harder we turn, but we get to see how many light bulbs we can turn on with our own energy.

If we would like to see the inside of an **electric generator**, there are steps to climb. There are no other climbing spots in this area because of high-voltage electricity.



YOUR PLACE IN TIME

In Your Place in Time, we can learn about what it was like to live during the 10 decades of the 20th century. We will see many artifacts on display in this exhibit. We can sit in a 100-year-old **Overland Touring Car** and stand in front of a green screen to become part of a music video.



DYMAXION HOUSE

Next to a gallery with changing exhibits is the **Dymaxion House**. There is a video at the entrance to this exhibit that shows how this house was made. It was designed by Buckminster Fuller, the same architect who designed the Epcot dome at Walt Disney World. Wheelchairs and strollers have to be left at the top of the ramp before entering the Dymaxion House.



We can go inside and check out the Dymaxion House. If we look over the railing, we can see that the house is not on the ground. We can touch the light switches. We can also push the button that rotates the shelves. Be gentle and do not climb or jump on the bed. The museum wants the house to last for many more years.



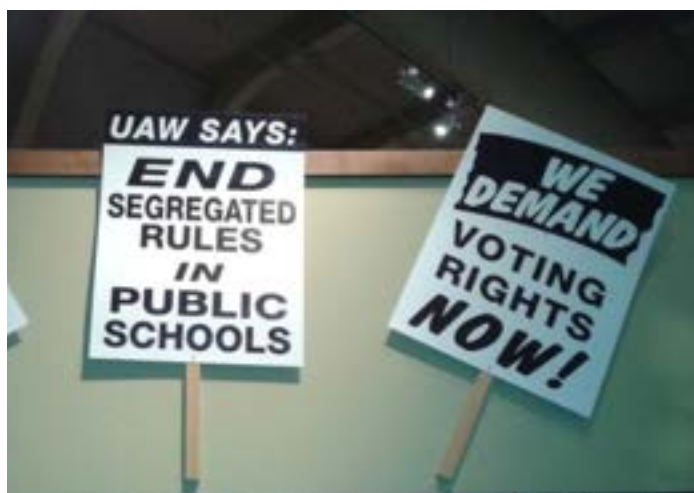
WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

The **With Liberty and Justice for All** exhibit is about American freedom and independence, from the American Revolution to the Civil Rights Movement.

We can see George Washington's camp bed and the chair in which President Abraham Lincoln was shot in 1865 while attending a play at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C.

We can also sit in the **same seat that Rosa Parks did** on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955. We will have to climb up big steps to get inside the bus. When inside, we can listen to audio about Rosa Parks.

Note: There is intense content in this exhibit that your adults may decide is not age appropriate for you. Some of the sections are about **segregation**, the Ku Klux Klan and **women's suffrage**. Images and speeches may be intense for younger children.



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GENIUS AT PLAY STORE

The **Genius at Play store**, located along the front wall of the museum, features many toy items. Adults have to pay for items in the store if you want to take them home. We can only touch these items with our adults present. This store has bright lights so that we can see all of the items very well.



HEROES OF THE SKY

In Heroes of the Sky, we can see **many different planes** from throughout history. We can even sit inside a plane. In this exhibit, we will hear the sounds of wind and airplanes' propellers and engines.

Also in Heroes of the Sky, we will have a chance to **make a paper airplane** and see how far it will fly in the testing area. There may be lots of other people in this area, also making and testing paper airplanes.

We can watch videos about flights by Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart. These videos are exciting, but if we push the button, there are also flashing lights and loud, excited voices telling these stories.

We can also stand on a "wing" and watch a movie that makes it seem like we are flying. We will feel vibrations and hear loud propeller and engine noises, just like on a plane. If we are scared of heights or get motion sickness, we may want to avoid this movie, even though our feet never leave the ground.



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DRIVING AMERICA

We have now entered Driving America. We will see neon signs from **Lamy's Diner**. We can get sandwiches, milkshakes and other foods there. We may notice a **McDonald's sign**, but Lamy's Diner serves old-fashioned lunch.

We can follow along a **timeline** from the oldest car. There are interactive screens, photographs and objects from collectors throughout the years.

Car fanatics will love this exhibit. Bright lights are shining from the ceiling onto some of the vehicles.



DRIVEN TO WIN: RACING IN AMERICA

In the Driven to Win: Racing in America exhibit, we can see many different race cars and learn about racing history. There is music playing in this exhibit.

We can go to a theater in the exhibit with a **movie called “Fueled by Passion.”** This is a 15-minute film that explores the stories of different race car drivers. There are loud sounds and bright lights during the film.

If our adult says it is OK and we purchase tickets, we can use the **In the Driver’s Seat simulators.** This is a 15-minute experience with the same technology that race car drivers use for training. This may be a challenging activity. If I feel uncomfortable while doing the activity, I can let my adult know.



PRESIDENTIAL VEHICLES

Here, we can view **presidential vehicles** used by Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan. There is also a **restroom** near the front of the museum and the presidential vehicles.



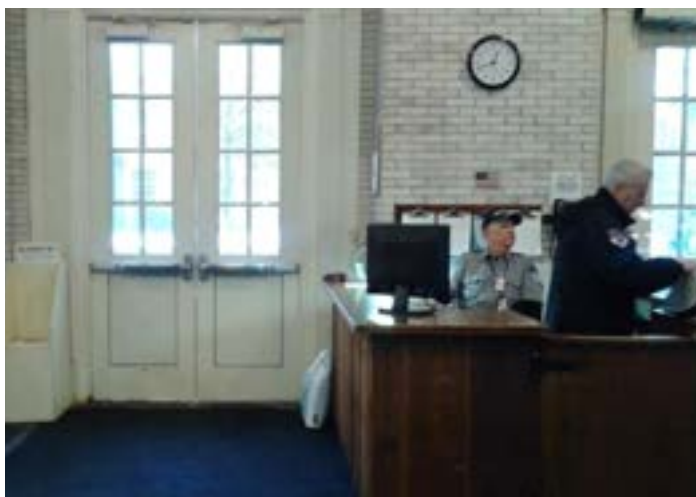
RAILROADS

Time to visit the Railroads exhibit. This exhibit can be noisy with the sounds of a train whistle and bells. If we take a turn, we should only ring the bell one time so as to not hurt others' ears. There are interactive videos at the **Allegheny Locomotive**. We can also climb up stairs to see inside the cab of the Allegheny.



There are also model trains to watch. See if we can find our faces on the camera at the front of the model train.

There will be a security guard at the staff entrance near Railroads. This is only for staff or emergencies.



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Thank you for visiting
Henry Ford Museum of
American Innovation.

It takes a lot of time and several visits to be able to enjoy this large museum.
Hopefully, you have enjoyed visiting and will come back again soon.