Dyslexia—Dyslexia is a learning difference that affects areas of the brain that process language. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. Dyslexic minds think creatively, laterally, often solving problems others can’t.

How could you better support visitors with dyslexia in exhibition galleries?

- Cambria and Arial are both good fonts (Comic Sans)
- Incorporate more imagery with or instead of words
- drop voting instead of text
- other interfaces - tactile
- Short chunks of text vs long intro chat
- diagrams
- Symbols might work too
- Mechanical interactive or reveal ‘ta-da!’
- drawing as well as writing contributions
- Mechanical reveal - ‘ta-da!’
- Group interaction, collaborative activities
- People to talk with/ask questions
- Audio/sound: audio tours, non-linear interface through an app
Autism—Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication.

How could you better support visitors with autism in exhibition galleries?

**Provide appropriate PACING** - Different levels of experience as you navigate through the exhibit.

**SENSITIVE TO NOISE** - Provide times for quiet. Noise cancelling headphones?

**UP FRONT PREPARATION** - Trigger map showing areas of exhibit that might affect sensitive patrons. Give people options to avoid graphic or violent imagery.

**POLICIES that address accessibility.**

**ASK FOR FEEDBACK** - From autistic audiences. Involve them in the design process.

**TRAIN STAFF to deal with autistic patrons**

**Provide multiple entry and exit points - possible "decompression" space? COMFORT**

**REFERENCE ADA GUIDEBOOK**
Anxiety—Anxiety disorders can cause intense, excessive, and persistent worry and fear about everyday situations that can reach a peak within minutes (panic attacks). Anxiety can be difficult to control and may cause an individual to avoid places or situations to prevent these feelings.

How could you better support visitors with anxiety in exhibition galleries?

- Consider lighting and noise overall
- Offer headphones for audio
- Link to access audio with their own phone/equipment
- Warning sign on loud audio
- Would need a focus group!
- Making the space very accommodating to service dogs
- Thinking about the “lurker” - having a valuable experience without having to do the thing
- Offering a touch component
- Creating space between objects/exhibits
- Place to get away from the crowd
Sensory processing disorder (SPD) is a condition that affects how your brain processes sensory information (stimuli). Sensory information includes things you see, hear, smell, taste, and/or touch. SPD usually means you’re overly sensitive to stimuli that other people are not.

How could you better support visitors with SPD in exhibition galleries?

- Rethink pacing
- reduce options
- individual spaces
- Give choice for volume, other sensory aspects - even fabrics
- Provide noise reduction headphones
- Further questions: what does this mean for signage?
- Quiet space
- Get to know the community to help build these options, times, activities.
- Dedicated times for people with SPDs
- dom lighting
- BRing in occupational therapists
- Reduce crowds, spread out exhibits
- Set expectations for parents (map or website)
- Partner with early learning folks
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How could you better support visitors with dyslexia in exhibition galleries?

- **Using pictograms or imagery w/ words**
- **Hands on touchables**
- **Users of images and objects**
- **Create text labels that are elementary level of reading - like 4th grade and not be text heavy.**
- **User group testing to see what works best**
- **Audio and video and touchables that allow access to content tactfully**
- **Text being less linear**
- **Font for dislexia**
- **Design of exhibit non linear, access content in more than one direction**
- **Design non-linear and accessed in more than one direction**
- **Simplifying the space and approach... in the design**
- **Less crowded area, not produce anxiety. Also allow open and rest spaces in the experience**
- **Pauses**
- **Staff assistance, docents**
- **Multi-sensory - more show than tell**
- **Include challenges for different learners and activities - contributing to the exhibit**
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How could you better support visitors with autism in exhibition galleries?

- Font selections for better comprehension
- Focus groups with community
- Make visitors aware if there will be a lot of sensory stimulation. I.e. noise, visual, etc.
- Quite places for autistic visitors to have a place to go
- Map, schedule
- Repetition
  - Provide specific information on website to cover what to expect, hours, etc.
- Dedicated low sensory times to meet needs. Adapted to accommodate needs.
- Control # of visitors to keep low density
- Provide open ended activities
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How could you better support visitors with anxiety in exhibition galleries?

- Warning signs at both entrance & trigger points/sensitive content
- Pre-visit content on the web site, and in person. What to expect, etc. Clear visuals of the layout/path/footprint
- Shelters -- like the cones, to create isolation areas
- Timed entry or other interventions to help with access/crowds
- Clearly marked exits/escape hatches
- "Playtest" with inclusive populations
- Clear sightlines through the exhibit
- Quiet pause points -- create rest points for eyes/mind
- Quiet hours, dimmed lights, soothing white noise
- Welcoming folks that experience anxiety into the experience early -- being intentional to bring things in.
- Add choices to help avert loss of control
- Create places for controlled comfortable social interaction, not just isolation
- Train staff -- how to interact with guests with respect
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How could you better support visitors with SPD in exhibition galleries?

- **No strobe lights**
  - Asking guests and staff to forego colognes and perfumes

- **Designate certain times with reduced lighting and stimulation (sound, crowds, etc) / work with social services to promote special events for particular groups**

- **Headphones, volume controls**

- **Mapping out high stimulation areas before the visitors arrive there. (available on the museum map)**

- **Rest areas for less stimulation (with good wayfinding)**

- **Customized guides for the museum, with tags for different needs**
  - Gestural controls for interactives

- **Advising the visitor on when sounds and effects are going to happen**

- **Bypass spaces in the exhibition to avoid intense stimuli**

- **Partnerships or hiring of people from affected groups**
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How could you better support visitors with dyslexia in exhibition galleries?

Accessible Typography. 
IE: Cambria, Arial, etc.

Auditory Information

Beacons at Important Moments

Use Illustrations and Demonstrations

Break Up Text into Smaller Pieces

Use of Staff/Docents

Color Contrast
Autism—Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication.

How could you better support visitors with autism in exhibition galleries?

- Quiet areas
- Low light
- Videos/sounds of nature
- Specific hours for guests with autism (reduced capacity, welcoming atmosphere)
- Giving potential visitors a "map" of what to expect before visiting could be helpful
- Carpet to quiet sound
- Sound reducing headphones
- Tactile interactions
- Limited hours
- Defined path but with exit points
- Simplified text & visuals
- Opportunities for collaboration or individual interactions
- Different modalities of communication
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