My Art Institute Field Trip
Today I am going to the Art Institute on a field trip.

My class will take a school bus from school to the museum. The bus will drop us off at the Art Institute and I will go with my class into the museum.
When we get inside, I will go with my whole class to a room and we will put our coats and backpacks into a bin. If we are eating lunch at the museum, our lunches will go into another bin.

One of the museum’s rules is that we cannot take our backpacks, coats, or any food into areas with works of art.
Then we will meet one of the docents. A docent is an Art Institute teacher who leads school groups in the museum. The docent will welcome us and tell us the rules for the tour.

I need to listen to the docent and remember the rules. The most important rule is to never touch a work of art.
I need to stay an arm’s length away from the works of art.
Our class will be divided into smaller groups and I will meet the docent who will be leading my group. I need to remember to stay with the group to which I am assigned.

When we leave the room, we may stop to get a stool to use on the tour.
This is how I carry the stool.
After we get our stools, we will start our tour. Our first stop may be in a big hallway called Griffin Court.

At this stop, our docent will tell us about the theme of our tour. We will not see a work of art at this stop.
When I enter the museum I may see some security officers.

The security officer is a helping person who works at the museum keeping people and works of art safe. Security officers help people find their way in the museum and remind people to follow the rules.
The Art Institute is a very big museum. There are many hallways and rooms (galleries) where there are many, many works of art. Some of the rooms are very large and some are small. On our tour we cannot stop at every work of art because there are so many.
Works of art are paintings and statues and other objects. When I am on my tour, I have to remember to stay with my small group and remember the important rule never to touch a work of art.

When we are walking on our tour, we might go up and down stairways or might use an elevator.
When my group gets to a work of art we are going to look at, the docent will tell us to sit on our stools (or on the floor). Then I need to listen and look at the work of art. The docent will ask questions about what I see.

I need to raise my hand to answer the questions or to ask a question.
On my tour I will stop at many works of art: 4 to 8 different stops.
When the tour is over, the docent will lead us back to return our stools and to the area where we were welcomed.

Then we may go to the bathroom and return to our school bus to go back to school.
I had fun on my tour of the Art Institute!
Social Story Studio Experience
When my tour is over, the docent will take my small group to one of the museum’s art classrooms and introduce us to the art teacher and her helpers.

My whole class will meet in this classroom to work on a fun art project.
The art teacher will have us sit at a table. There will be 4 or 5 students at each table.

The art teacher will ask us about the art works we saw on our tour. Then she will explain what our fun art project will be. The art teacher will give me directions on how to start the project. I should listen because that will help me know what to do.
There may be art supplies for us to work with at the table or the art teacher and her helpers may pass out the supplies.

I may write or draw or do another activity when working on the art project. I might work by myself or with the other students at my table.
When my whole class is done working on their art projects the art teacher and helpers will explain how I should clean up.

I need to listen for their directions so I know what to do.
When we are done with the art project, I will leave the museum with my whole class and get on our school bus for the ride back to our school.
LUNCH SOCIAL STORY
Some classes eat lunch as part of their field trip to the museum.

If my class eats lunch at the museum, my parents will send me with a sack lunch for the day of the field trip.
After our tour, we will return to either the room where we were greeted or another room like it. My teacher will give us directions on what to do. I need to listen to and follow the teacher’s directions.

Our class will get our sack lunches and I will eat lunch with my class. We will sit at long tables and eat our lunch.