Illumination
Tree Lights at The Morton Arboretum
Social Story
I will be going to *Illumination: Tree Lights at The Morton Arboretum*. There, I can see the trees decorated with colorful lights and listen to festive music.
Dressing in layers will help my body stay warm when it is cold outside.
I can bring headphones to help if the music is loud or sunglasses if the lights are too bright.
First, we will find a place to park. If the main lot (P1) is full, we can park in other spaces and take a shuttle which will bring us closer to the entrance.
When I arrive, I will wait to go inside the ticket center (Sycamore Room). Waiting can be hard, but I can look at all the colorful tree lights until it is my turn.
Once I am inside, I can hand my ticket to the staff member behind the counter. They will scan my ticket and show me which way to go.
It is important that I stay with my group. If I get separated, I can find a staff member or volunteer wearing a name tag who can help me.
The trail begins through the Enchanted Gateway where I will enter underneath colorful streamers.
Along the way, there are many different lights to enjoy! Each feature has a name displayed on a colorful sign.
I can breathe with trees at Treemagination or look at the lights surrounding me in the Golden Glade. The music here is a softer volume.
Some areas are interactive! I can pose to see my colorful shadow, hug a tree, and even change the colors of the lights.
If there are other visitors in an area I would like to try, I can wait until they are finished or ask to take a turn.
If I need to take a break, I can rest at a bench along the trail.
If I need to use the restroom when we are on the trail, there are signs that show which way to go.
If I get hungry, I can get something to eat from the Visitor’s Center or the concession stands.
There are fire pits along the trail. I need to stay safe by not getting too close. If I get a s’mores kit from the concession stand, I can roast marshmallows here.
The path continues through the Festival of Lanterns. There are many different shapes and colors here!
As the trail comes to an end, we get to enjoy the finale at Radiant Reflections on the water!
Knowing what to expect made my visit to *Illumination* fun and enjoyable!
For other seasonal sensory support resources, visit The Morton Arboretum Website.
To collect and study trees, shrubs, and other plants from around the world, to display them across naturally beautiful landscapes for people to study and enjoy, and to learn how to grow them in ways that enhance our environment.

Our goal is to encourage the planting and conservation of trees and other plants for a greener, healthier, and more beautiful world.