



Easy Read Visual Story

Soft of Spiky

A Half Moon & Polka Theatre co-production:

A playful discovery of shapes, sounds and textures.

This pack is a visual resource for children and adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder and others who might welcome support when accessing the performance.

This resource is intended to help prepare you and your group/family for a new experience and to help them to become familiar with the show, surroundings and situation.

We hope you enjoy the show!



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What to expect



What is it?

This playful and interactive show is full of shapes, sounds and textures, exploring different ways to connect and understand each other.

During the show you can discover a world of soft or spiky with your baby.

The production explores how two different experiences of the world - either a world of soft or a world of spiky - can evolve and grow to help us understand each other.

And, what happens when they discover their worlds don't need to be so divided?



Who is it for?

It is a show for babies and their families.

The recommended age is for babies aged 6-18 months and their family and friends.

We hope the show isn't just for babies and is as meaningful and enjoyable for grown-ups who come with their babies.



Main themes

- Difference
- Communication
- Identity
- Change
- Acceptance



Length of show

25 minutes

There is no interval.

At the end of the performance there is a stay and play session where you can explore and enjoy the sensory landscape of the production.

During the show



Music and Sound

As you enter there will be music playing from the speakers.

The show has recorded music, which is used throughout the show.

Sometimes, the actor makes sounds to help you understand what is going on.

There are no loud noises.



People may clap at various points.

You can join in if you want to or not - it's totally up to you.



You might feel happy or sad during the show which is ok.

People may laugh at various points.
You can join in if you want to or not.



**All performances are
Relaxed Performances:**

You can:

- Wear headphones.
- Talk to each other or make noises.
- Move around.
- Leave the performance and re-join whenever you want.

Content and trigger warnings



- Smoke will come out of the large yellow triangle.
- You may be asked to stand up and move to another part of the theatre space.
- The performer will bring out triangles covered in rubber bands, yellow wooden triangles, woollen balls and blue felt circles which she will play with before handing out to audience members.
- The performer may come close to you and interact with you.

Performer and costume



My name is Stasha.

I am the performer in *Soft or Spiky?*

At the start of the show I have a jacket made of coloured circles and blue balls. As the performance begins I will take this off and place it on the stage.

I wear grey leggings with five small red triangles attached to the bottom of each leg.

I also wear a grey T-shirt with soft blue wool balls attached to my arms and shoulders. I also have these balls as earrings.

I wear grey ballet shoes.

Set



The set is made of colourful square and triangular cushions, which the audience sit on.

When you enter the space, the performer will show you where to sit.

Around the stage are various colourful shapes – including triangles and circles - in varied sizes which the performer interacts with throughout the show.