Let’s go to Mount Vernon

A social narrative for visiting George and Martha Washington’s Estate

Their home is in Virginia next to the Potomac River.
I will see adults that work at Mount Vernon. These adults are here to help me learn and keep me safe.

They wear a red lanyard or a special uniform.
When I get to Mount Vernon, I will walk on a bumpy brick path from the parking lot to the entrance.

I will see a white gate.
I will turn left in front of the white gate.

A staff person will be outside and will show me where to go.
We will enter Mount Vernon through this gate.
A staff person will check our bags. This is to keep me safe.

If I don’t bring a bag, I can walk right in.
I can pick up my sensory friendly bag here too.

Now it is time to explore!
If I need to take a break, that’s okay. A staff person can take me to the take-a-break room.

The building looks like this.
I can visit the Upper Garden. I can look at the plants in the garden.

Many people like plants. I will try not to pick them so other people can enjoy them.
I can visit some of the slave quarters in the historic area. Many enslaved people lived and worked at Mount Vernon.

I can use my visual checklist to look for objects inside the rooms.
We can visit some of the outbuildings.

I can use my visual checklist to look for objects inside the buildings.
I can visit the Discovery Cart and learn about brick making.
Some of the Mansion is almost 300 years old! It is being restored so that it will last a long time. Right now there is scaffolding on the piazza.

When I am ready, we can visit the Mansion.
We will enter the Mansion from the side that faces away from the river.
There are many old objects in the Mansion. I will see different types of barriers to keep those objects safe.

I will stay behind the barriers to keep the objects safe.
This is the New Room. It was used for parties.

Some rooms have black ropes. These ropes are there to keep objects safe. I will try to stay behind the ropes.
This room is the Central Passage. I can go upstairs if I want to.

Someone will be in the rooms to answer my questions. They may have objects for me to touch. If they tell me it's okay, I can touch the objects if I want to.
Upstairs, I will learn about the bedrooms used by guests visiting George Washington.

I can look into the bedrooms when I am in the hall.
To get to George and Martha Washington’s bedroom, I will walk through the yellow bedroom.
I will look through the door to see George and Martha Washington’s bedroom.

That’s George Washington’s real bed!
When I walk down the stairs, I will be careful.

The ceiling is low. I will lower my head if I am tall.
This room is the study. It was George Washington’s office.
At 9:00am Mount Vernon opens to the public. I can stay with my family to visit places like the blacksmith shop.

If I am done, I can leave with my family.