Going to a Restaurant
There are many types of restaurants.

I go to a restaurant to eat.

Eating at restaurants is fun.
When I go to a restaurant, the foods have different smells.

Some restaurants are dark and others are very bright.

Sometimes a restaurant can be quiet. Other times, there may be a lot of people or there may be a party. It can get loud.
Sometimes a restaurant can be busy.

I may have to wait on line or in a lobby area.

Waiting can be hard, but when a table is ready, the waiter or waitress will take me there.
Sometimes there are decorations on the table or walls, like pictures, plants or candles. They help the restaurant look nice. I shouldn't touch or remove them.

Salt and pepper shakers, ketchup, or other seasonings may be on the table, too. They are there for the people who are eating at that table.

If I like to add some flavor to my meal, I can use them. If not, they can stay on the table.
Menus can be given to me by a waiter or a waitress. Or, a menu can be on the table, or posted on a blackboard.

A menu tells what food is available.

There can be a lot of food choices listed on a menu.

I can tell the waiter or waitress what I want to eat from the menu.
Every restaurant is different.

Each one has different types of foods.

I can pick a new food to try or something that I know I like.
I should stay in my chair unless I have to go to the bathroom.

I can bring along a book or small game to keep me comfortable while I am at the restaurant.
I need to wait to eat until the waiter or waitress serves my food.

I should only eat the food that is in my dish and not take any food from another person’s dish or from another table. If someone at my table asks if me if I want to taste some food, I wait until the person gives me a portion.

If something spills or breaks, I should tell the person I am with, the waiter, or the waitress. Someone will clean it up with me. I can stay calm.
I can tell the people I am sitting with when I am finished.

The waiter or waitress will give us a bill for the food. I can get up from the table after we pay the bill.

As I leave, I should thank the waiter or waitress for their help.
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For more information about this program contact: KohlsAutismAwareness@childrens-specialized.org

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