

We're going to...

FAMILY
FUN
CENTER



Notes to Caregivers:

If you have a sensory-sensitive child, it can be challenging to help your child enjoy certain experiences. Their classmates may throw big birthday parties, but the lights, sounds, and crowds make your child feel overwhelmed. At Family Fun Center, we want every child to have an awesome time. Sensational Sunday is a **sensory-friendly play day in Lakeland**. Once a month from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm, we're turning down the lights and music to help sensory sensitive kids experience the fun of our [Funtasia play area](#) and other family activities we have at **Family Fun Center of Lakeland**. Here's what to expect:

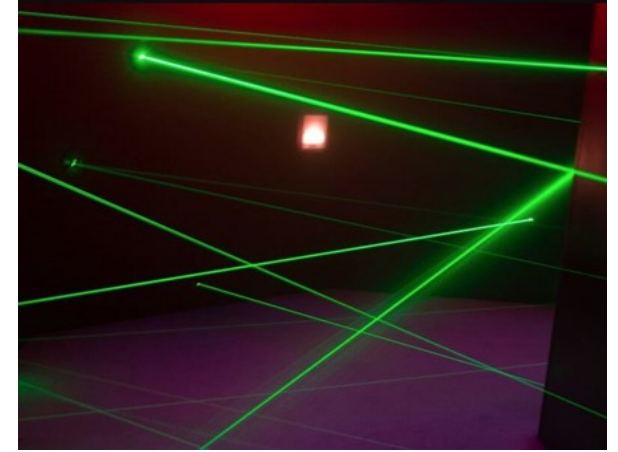
- Low lights
- Games off
- Low music
- Trained staff
- Stay and play all day
- Open to ages 12 and younger

We're even opening early to keep the crowds to a minimum.

Tips for Sensory-Friendly Play

1. Know your child. We do our best to make the experience fun for all kids, but know your child's limits.
2. Plan ahead. Will your child need an extra nap before playtime? Headphones or earplugs? A change of clothing? Make sure they get it so they can focus on fun.
3. Keep communication open. You want your child to have a great time. Let them know it's okay to be honest about their experience. If they're overwhelmed, you can always try again next month.

Do you have an idea to make Sensational Sunday even better? Let us know!



Today we are going to Family Fun Center where there's something fun for everyone!



When we get inside, I will put money in the machine to get a Fun Card to use on games. If I am going to the *Funtasia* area, I will get a bracelet for my wrist. I keep the bracelet on while I am in the Family Fun Center.



When I want to play a game, I slide my card into the machine to turn it on. If I have a problem using the card, I can ask my parent to help. Cards cost money. When the card credits are used up, I can ask for more.



There are games I can play with a friend and there are games I can play by myself.



There are even areas where I don't need to use a card to play and have fun. This is the *Funtasia* area. It has lots of places to play.



I can climb, crawl through tunnels, slide down slides and run through the obstacle course.



Maybe I can shoot balls out of the yellow cannons to hit the other boat across the room. The fans in this area make some noise. If it gets too loud for me, I can wear headphones or earplugs.



Maybe I might play in the ball pool with other boys and girls.



All the boys and girls wear socks on their feet in this area.



I will be careful while I have fun so I don't bump into other people while I play.



Please move.
Thank you.

I will ask others to **please move** if they are in my way.



I will be friendly and wait my turn when using equipment in this area.



If I want to go outdoors, I will ask my parent to take me out. I will always let my adult know where I am going.



The outdoor area is for mini golf. Sometimes I may have to wait my turn to play because other people are playing already. I will wait with calm hands and feet and quiet voice. When it's my turn, I will hit the ball with the club and be careful around other people when I swing.



There is a waterfall and a pond.
I will stay out of the water.
It's against the rules to go in the water here.



The golf course has a tunnel and a bridge. I will keep my feet on the ground and not climb or go off the course. Climbing outside is against the rules.



Back inside, there are many toys and prizes I can earn by collecting electronic tickets (e-tickets) on my Fun Card. I earn these by playing games.



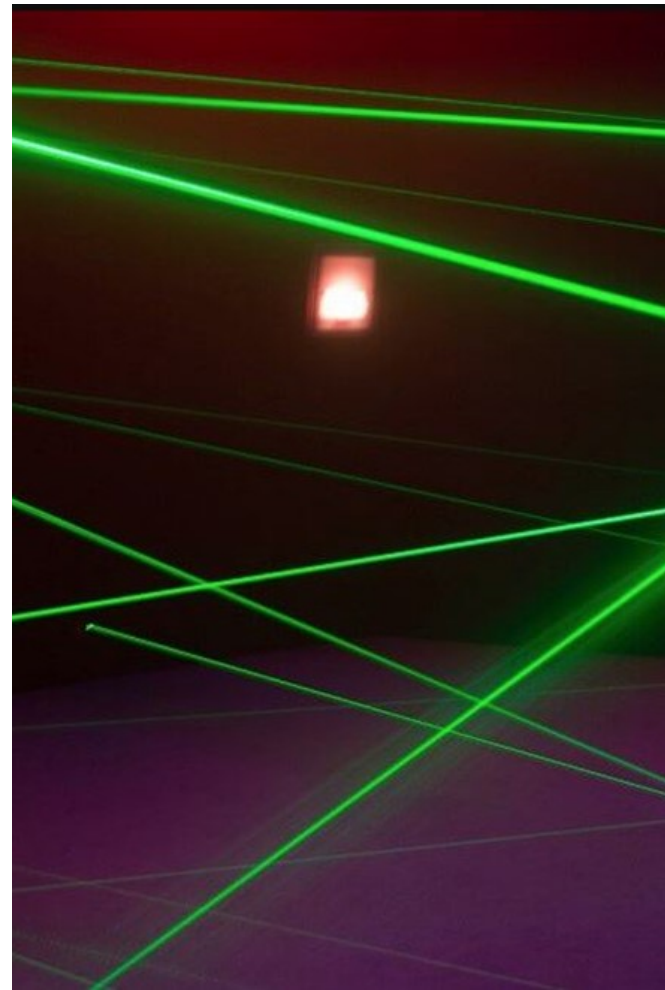
When have enough e-tickets, I can pick a prize.

I give my card to the worker behind the counter and point to the prize I want.

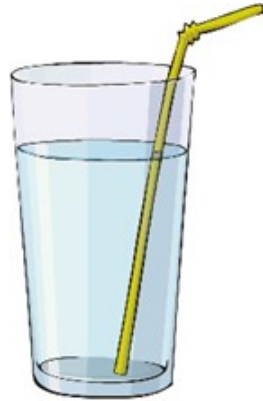


There are games for older kids and adults too. Laser Tag is fun to play.

I can ask my adult to show me how.



The Laser Maze is fun to try. But there may be some loud noises. I can wear headphones if it's too loud.



This area with chairs and tables is usually used for parties.

If I am feeling tired or overwhelmed I can go here and rest for a while,
if the room is not being used.



I might be able to have a snack or a meal at Cap's Pizza Cafe. I can ask my adult for money or use my Fun Card to buy food or a drink.



I might be having so much fun I don't want to go home!

Even though the Family Fun Center is open late, I may not get to stay as long as I want. I will listen to my adults and leave with them when they say it's time to go.

When I follow directions nicely, my family is happy with me. I will be allowed to come back to Family Fun Center again.

The End.

The University of South Florida
Center for Autism and Related Disabilities

1-800-333-4530

813-974-2532

<http://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu>



Florida's First Choice for Autism Support

call for technical assistance

