

WHAT TO EXPECT GUIDE



Welcome to Baby Brain! This is a guide about what to expect when you come to see the show Baby Brain by The Herd Theatre.

We believe theatre should be accessible to everyone. If you still have questions or there's anything we can do to help make our performances more accessible to you or others please let us know.

You can contact Emma at The Herd directly by emailing emma@theherdtheatre.co.uk if you have any questions about the show.



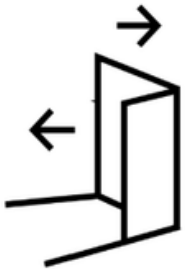
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KEY INFORMATION



Baby Brain is a 35 minute performance, with 20 minutes of stay-and-play afterwards. The number of people in the audience will be up to 50.



You are free to come and go as much as you need during the performance.



There are gentle lights used in the storytelling - sometimes the smaller ones go on and off but don't flash and the whole space remains lit. There is light on the audience seating throughout the show. There is a short moment where all the lights fade at the end of the show.



Bottle feeding and breastfeeding is welcome in all venues on this tour.



Milk or water can be consumed in the performance. We ask that you don't eat any other snacks or drinks in the performance area to protect the set.

ARRIVING AT THE VENUE

You can book your tickets to the show through The Herd Website.

At each of the venues on this tour, you will be greeted by a member of the front of The Herd team who will check your name off a list before you enter the performance space.

You may have to wait a short while if the performance space is not yet open for audiences.

If waiting is difficult for you, you can leave and come back once the doors are open.

ALL SHOWS ARE RELAXED

This means that we have a relaxed approach to noise and movement in the space, your child can walk or crawl during the performance, and you are free to enter and exit as you wish.

It also means the sound level isn't too loud and lighting changes are gentle.

Please ask a member of the team on arrival, if you have any specific requirements.

Toilet and baby changing facilities



All venues have accessible toilets and baby-changing facilities.

Please ask the venue you are visiting for the locations.

Food and Drink



Some venues have nearby shops and cafes where food, drink and snacks are available to buy.



Not all venues have free tap water to drink, so please bring this from home.

Use of Phones



We ask you to kindly not use your phone during the performance unless you absolutely have to.

There will be an opportunity to have a photos during the stay and play session afterwards!

INTRODUCTION TO THE SHOW

The performance space will open at the show start time, to make sure everyone is ready to see the show.

The performance space looks like this. One performer will be on stage from the start.



The performer may look at you and make gentle eye contact with a hello or a smile, but they will not come into physical contact with you. They will be responsive to the the audience, and not impose themselves if a child is unsure.

Find a comfy place to sit on the floor mats and cushions. There will be chairs available for those who can't sit on the floor.

There are 2 performers in the show. They look like this:



This is Mum Brain



This is Baby Brain

They talk in minimal, simple language without using too many words.

Mum Brain and Baby Brain will look to the audience and share what is happening throughout. You can interact with them but there is no expectation to do so.



You can make noise, laugh, comment whilst watching the show, even talk along with your child if you like.

If you have a child who like to wriggle, crawl or walk during the performance, this is welcome. The performers will work around the child and they will be safe.

THE STORY

Mum has a baby,
baby grows.
Mum's brain changes.

PLOT POINTS

1. Mum sees the babies in the audience and sings to them. She sees babies everywhere and feels her baby coming.



2. Baby is born. Mum and Baby meet for the first time.



3. Baby's brain starts to activate. A light in her brain starts to glow. Mum gives it to Baby and she shows the audience. She places the light in her brain space.



4. Baby explores and finds a small pink tube. She plays with it and blows through it with Mum. They make funny noises and show the Babies what they can do. Baby learns a word - "Baby".



5. Baby now has two lights in her Brain Space. Mum is happy about baby's development.



6. Baby plays with another tube and gets stuck. Mum crosses to Baby's space and helps her. She cuddles her and sings her a lullaby. Mum returns to her space and Baby learns to roll. Another light glows.



7. Baby follows Mum back to her space and starts pulling bits out of her brain space.



8. Mum returns Baby to her space. Now Mum's brain isn't working as it normally does. She fixes her light but turns around and Baby has disappeared. Mum finds Baby.

9. Mum experiences brain fog. A large material covers the audience and Baby plays with it while Mum walks through it. Mum gets cocooned in the material and baby plays.



10. Baby gets stuck and Mum helps her. Mum sings to Baby. Mum realises her Brain is different.



11. Mum and Baby build a structure together. Baby builds it out of Mum's Brain and Mum is amazed. She realises she is changed and not broken.



12. Mum and Baby do a movement sequence celebrating the early years of Baby's life. They share a moment of connection together at the end before the lights go out.



After the Show – Stay and Play

The performers will bow, and the audience will clap to mark the end of the show.

Then the audience are invited to stay in the performance space and explore the set and props. More open ended props, or toys to explore are brought into the space. The session lasts for 20 minutes.



Audience Interaction

There are several moments in the show where the performers come close to the audience.

1. Baby shows audience members a small portable light that switches on and off.
2. Small pink tubes blown into and shaken to make a noise with and around audience.
3. Floaty material draped over the audience.

The performers are very good at judging the audiences needs, and body language. They will not engage if a child is uncomfortable.

SONG 1

Babies
Babies
Babies
Babies

I see babies
I hear babies
I see babies
Everywhere

Baby baby baby baby baby baby baby baby
Baby baby baby baby baby baby baby baby
Baby baby baby baby baby baby baby baby
Baby baby baby baby baby baby baby baby

I feel baby
I grow baby
It's my baby
Nearly here

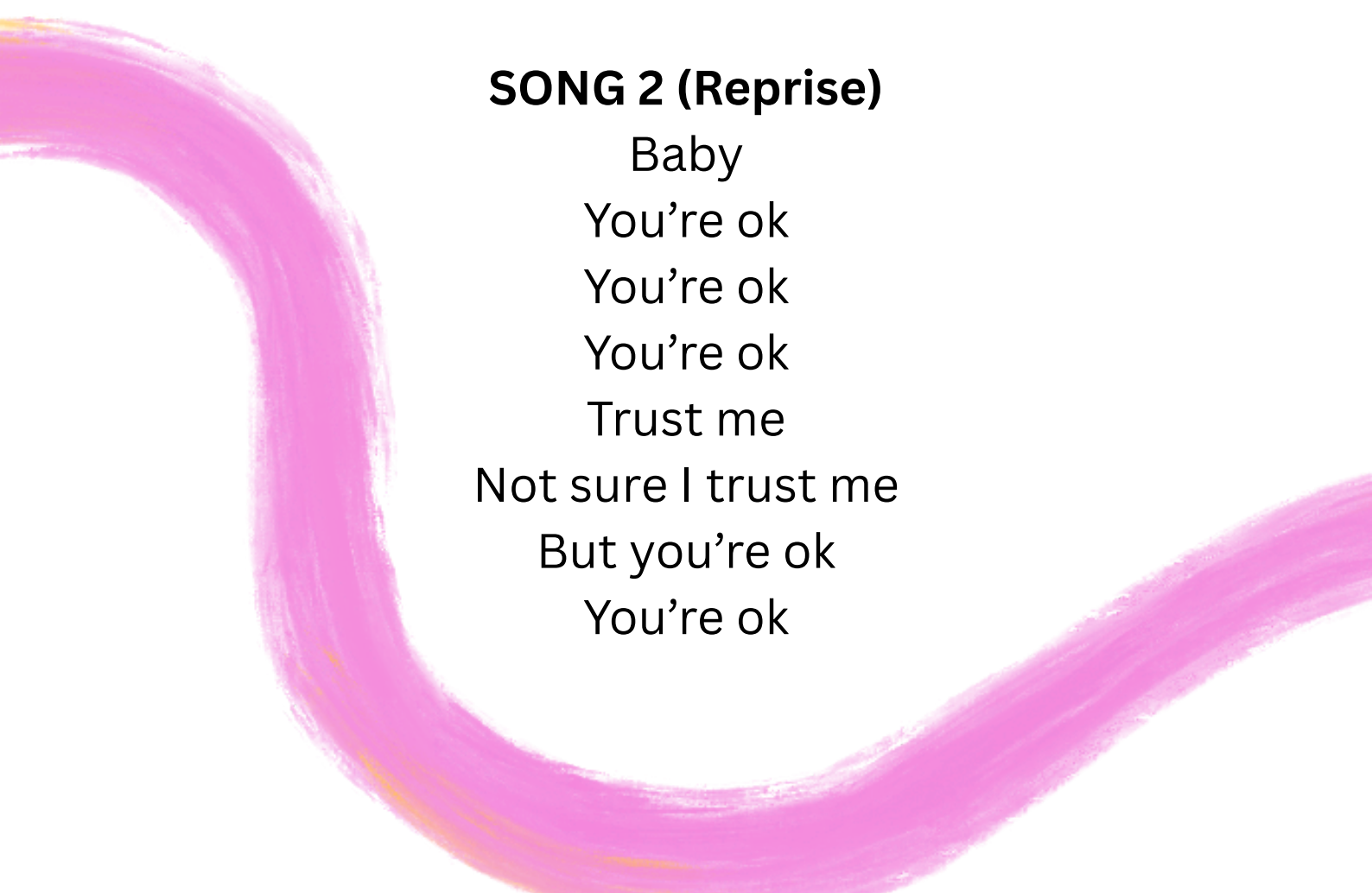
Come on baby
Come on baby
Come on baby
Nearly here



SONG 2

Baby
You're ok
You're ok
You're ok
Baby
You're ok
Trust me
You're ok
Trust me
You're ok
You are safe
You're ok

SONG 2 (Reprise)



Baby
You're ok
You're ok
You're ok
Trust me
Not sure I trust me
But you're ok
You're ok

SONG 3

It's changed in here
It's changed in here
It's changed in here
It's changed in here
You made a shift
You formed a rift
A rift I tried to fix in here
I thought I'd broke
Could mend the fault
But there was something that I missed in here
There's something new
There's something new
That something new is me and you
There's space for me
There's space for you
We've been building something new
A million ways I feel like I have changed
And I'm not, broken
A million ways I'm not the same
But I'm not, I'm not broken
A million ways I feel like I have changed
And I'm not, broken
A million ways I'm not the same
But I'm not, I'm not broken
There's space for me
There's space for you
We've been building something new



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

You can find out about The Herd and what we do by going to our website

www.theherdtheatre.co.uk

Or follow us on social media

@theherduk

Or get in touch at **hello@theherdtheatre.co.uk**

THE HERD