



South Dakota State Fair Presents...
Sensory-Friendly Morning

Wednesday, August 27, 2025 | 8 AM – 12 PM

For the first time ever, the South Dakota State Fair is hosting a **Sensory-Friendly Morning** — a special time for those who might feel overwhelmed by big crowds, bright lights, and loud sounds. We're turning things down a notch—less noise, gentler lights, and a slower pace—to create a calmer, more comfortable fair experience for kids, teens, and adults alike!



Look for the **Sensory-Friendly logo** to know where accommodations have been made.

8 AM – 12 PM

Huron Public Library Activities

Enjoy hands-on fun, a pop-up library, and DIY calming crafts! Activities include Make & Take Project, Sensory Bins and other sensory processing passive activities, and a calming corner.

8 AM – 12 PM

State Fair Visual Scavenger Hunt

Perfect for those who prefer to stay seated. Look around, spot fair sights, draw what made you smile—and earn a coupon for a free glass of milk from Midwest Dairy! Stop by the SD Rural Electric Tent or the Information Center to participate.

8 AM – 10 AM

Noah's Way Exotic Petting Zoo

Meet amazing animals like camels, zebras, goats, and lemurs! Located in the MIP Building on the north end of the fairgrounds.

8 AM – 10 AM

Cuddle a Bunny

Gentle bunnies, soft cuddles, and a peaceful space—perfect for a quiet connection with these furry friends. Brought to you by the Gilchrist, Woehl, and Masterson Families.

9 AM – 12 PM

LEGO Play Zone

Let your creativity shine in the Arts & Education Building. Build, stack, and imagine in a relaxed space for all ages and abilities.

9 AM – 10 AM & 11 AM – 12 PM

Therapy Dog Meet & Greet

Take a break with a sweet therapy dog! Calming and comforting moments in the Day Sponsor Tent near Horizons Hall. Brought to you by Caroline Hanson.

9 AM – 10:30 AM

FFA Ag Adventure Center

Get hands-on with farming and food fun! Explore farm life through interactive exhibits and live demos.

9 AM – 12 PM

Meet a Gentle Horse

Spend time with a calm, friendly horse from Hope Therapeutic Riding! Participants can gently pet, brush, and learn about horse care. Located in the southwest end of the Hippodrome (stalling area).

10 AM – 12 PM

Get to Know a Goat!

Say hello to a goat. Gently pet and learn fun facts about goats from the people who take care of them every day! In the Day Sponsor Tent near Horizons Hall. Brought to you by Crystal Neuharth.

10 AM – 11:30 AM

Carnival Fun – Sensory Style

Enjoy select carnival rides with no flashing lights, no loud music, and slower speeds—just fun at your pace!

10 AM

Story Time: “The Monster Who Ate the State”

Join Soozy the Dinosaur on a reading adventure across South Dakota! Presented by the SD Department of Education.

10 AM – throughout the afternoon

Stock Dog Clinic

Watch skilled working dogs in action as they guide livestock through gentle commands and teamwork! The Stock Dog Clinic offers a calm, educational demonstration that highlights the bond between dog and handler. Located in the Hippodrome.

All Day

Critter Crate – Game, Fish & Parks Display

Touch real animal furs, bones, and skins! A hands-on way to explore the wild side of South Dakota.

All Day

State Fair Outdoor Mural

Help color a giant mural of fair scenes! Located in front of the Horticulture Building. A great way to make your mark!

All Day

Calming Cottage

Need a break? Our 10' x 10' sensory-friendly cottage includes:

- Air conditioning
- Noise-canceling headphones
- Rocking chair
- Fidgets & coloring sheets
- Weighted blanket

Located on the south side of the Horticulture Building (Flag Ave).

Bonus: South Dakota's Largest Classroom

You're welcome to attend special programs like:

- **Science Mania** – Magic meets science on the Freedom Stage!
- **Flippenout Extreme Trampoline Show** – Olympic stunts flying 25 feet in the air!

Note: These may be louder and more crowded.

Important Notes:

- The National Anthem will play at **9:45 AM** over the loudspeaker.
 - The carnival returns to full lights & sounds at **3 PM**.
 - Bring your own noise-canceling headphones if you have them.
 - Handicap parking available at **Gate 6** for \$7.
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A Big THANK YOU To:

Huron Regional Medical Center • Huron Area Center for Independence • True Reflections Counseling • Disability Rights SD • Open Door Consulting • Huron Public Library • moveU • Amazing Volunteers!

Let's make fair magic for everyone—**calmer, kinder, and full of fun!**
