

Complete Planetarium Show List For School Groups

Early Childhood Shows

ASTRO OTTERS

(Grades K-6)

1-5 min. each

Short modules cover all aspects of astronomy, from solar systems to galaxies.
(School show only)

EARTH, MOON & SUN

(Grades K and older)

26 min.

Coyote has a razor-sharp wit, but he's a little confused about what he sees in the sky. This amusing character adapted from Native American oral traditions is part of a fun, fast-paced full-dome show that explored lunar phases, eclipses, and other puzzles.

IN MY BACKYARD

(Grades PS-1)

40 min.

This show features children's entertainer Fred Penner, who narrates the show and performs original songs while teaching the basics of the sky and celebrating the beauty of nature all around us.

KALUOKA'HINA: THE ENCHANTED REEF

(Grades PS and older)

32 min.

Kaluoka'hina, the enchanted reef, guards a secret, and only magic protects it against humans finding it. But now that an erupting volcano threatens to break the protective spell, it is up to sawfish Jake and his pal Shorty to restore the magic. This delightful undersea adventure will leave you smiling.

LITTLE STAR THAT COULD

(Grades PS-2)

40 min.

This story discusses colors and birth and death of stars, Milky Way, and differences between stars, planets, and moons.

ONE WORLD, ONE SKY

(Grades PS and older)

27 min.

This show is based on the popular television program, Sesame Street. Big Bird, Elmo, and their friend from China, Hu Hu Zhu, take viewers on a voyage of discovery to learn about the Big Dipper, the North Star, the Sun, and the Moon.

SKY OVER MR. ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD

(Grades PreK–Kind)

30 min.

TV personality Mr. Rogers takes us to the Neighborhood of Make-Believe to see the night sky. Clouds, constellations, meteors, and the moon are topics introduced in this friendly show.

A STARRY TALE

(Grades K–3)

50 min.

Alvin presents the basic facts about stars and constellations, concluding with a deep space voyage through our galaxy to visit other stars.

STORYBOOK SKY

(Grades PS–3)

30-45 min.

Explore the planetarium chamber and hear some star stories. Observe the current evening sky. Students are asked to participate in locating the constellations.

THE SUN: OUR VERY OWN STAR

(Grades PS and older)

50 min.

Explores how the sun affects almost everything on Earth.

ZULA PATROL: UNDER THE WEATHER

(Grades: PS–2)

23 min.

Based on a popular television show, this show features the Zula Patrol embarking on an expedition to collect weather samples from the planet Zula and attempting to thwart Dark Truder's designs to rule the universe.

Elementary Grade Level

ASTRO OTTERS

(Grades K-6)

1-5 min. each

Short modules cover all aspects of astronomy, from solar systems to galaxies.

(School show only)

CURRENT SKY

(Grades 3 and older)

10 min. free program with the purchase of another planetarium show.

Find out more about “what’s up tonight” in just a few minutes! Hop through constellations, learn cool star names, and discover where the moon and planets will be in tonight’s sky.

EARTH, MOON & SUN

(Grades K and older)

26 min.

Coyote has a razor-sharp wit, but he’s a little confused about what he sees in the sky. This amusing character adapted from Native American oral traditions is part of a fun, fast-paced full-dome show that explored lunar phases, eclipses, and other puzzles.

EXTREME PLANETS

(Grades 3 and older)

30 min.

In this production visitors will explore what makes a planet "Earth-like" in the first place, and take an immersive tour of several worlds that just might fit the conditions we’re looking for. From water worlds to molten landscapes, inhabitable moons to planets with multiple suns, these exotic worlds aren't just science fiction anymore!

FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD

(Grades 1–5)

35-45 min.

An important era in American history has a surprising astronomical connection. Follow one family's flight to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

FRACTALS

(Grades 1 and older)

Six available: 1.5 to 3 min. each

Fractals are beautiful self-repeating patterns that exist many places in nature: lightning, trees, river deltas, our own bodies, galaxies, and more. Based on mathematical formulas, these short programs can be an adjunct to math class or just a great aesthetic experience. Add to a full-length show for no extra charge.

KALUOKA’HINA: THE ENCHANTED REEF

(Grades PS and older)

32 min.

Kaluoka’hina, the enchanted reef, guards a secret, and only magic protects it against humans finding it. But now that an erupting volcano threatens to break the protective spell, it is up to sawfish Jake and his pal Shorty to restore the magic. This delightful undersea adventure will leave you smiling.

ONCE UPON A MOONTH

(Grades 2-6)

40 min.

This program explores the motions and phases of our closest neighbor, the Moon, includes a trip to the Moon and reviews the exploration of the Moon by the Apollo astronauts.

OUR UNIVERSE: THE UNIVIEW EXPERIENCE

(Grades 4 and older)

30-40 min.

This live program takes you on a tour of our amazing, 14-billion-year-old universe as documented in the American Museum of Natural History. A few volunteers will have the opportunity to use an X-Box controller to fly our "spaceship" from planet to planet and out beyond our own Milky Way Galaxy. Ready. Set. Engage!

SEASONAL STARGAZING

(Grades 3 and older)

Short: 6 min. Long: 17 min.

Find out more about "what's up tonight" in just a few minutes than some people do in a lifetime! Hop through constellations, learn cool star names, and groove to planetarium space music in this fulldome audio-visual experience. Each *Seasonal Stargazing* show highlights the most prominent and easy-to-find stars and constellations of the season. Audience members see and hear star names and constellations and learn to star-hop for popular deep sky objects.

SENSATIONAL SOUND SHOW

(Grades 2-5)

40 min.

Dr. Fantastic takes you on a journey through the clamorous world of sound. How we hear and how sounds are made are two of the topics of this upbeat show.

SPACE BUS

(Grades 1-3)

50-55 min.

Stella & friends take a trip into space in the year 2077. Ride over Martian deserts, skate over icy Miranda, and run into space aliens.

A STARRY TALE

(Grades K-3)

50 min.

Alvin presents the basic facts about stars and constellations, concluding with a deep space voyage through our galaxy to visit other stars.

THE SUN: OUR VERY OWN STAR

(Grades PS and older)

50 min.

Explores how the sun affects almost everything on Earth.

STORYBOOK SKY

(Grades PS–3)

30-45 min.

Explore the planetarium chamber and hear some star stories. Observe the current evening sky. Students are asked to participate in locating the constellations.

WHERE IN THE UNIVERSE IS CARMEN SANDIEGO?

(Grades 2-6)

55 min.

This show features a tour of our solar system in a story based on the popular television series. Carmen has stolen the rings of Saturn and it is the mission of the audience to track Carmen down. Class participation in the search helps bring her to justice.

Middle School & older

ADVENTURES ALONG THE SPECTRUM

(Grades 5–9)

50-55 min.

Professor Photon goes into the realm of infrared, microwave, radar and radio.

AMAZING ASTRONOMERS OF ANTIQUITY

(Grades 5 and older)

21 min.

Astronomers and their discoveries throughout the millennia: from Ancient Egypt to the Middle Ages. Did you know that ancient astronomers knew the size of the Earth, the rotation of the sky, and could predict eclipses and seasons and even the flood of the Nile? Take a full-dome journey to the past to uncover the ancient secrets. Visit the buildings, like the Pantheon in Rome and Saqqara in Egypt that are themselves observatories! Learn the stories of seven amazing ancient astronomers.

ASTRONOMY LABS

(Grades 6 and older)

55 min.

Special interactive lessons to help meet state goals. Call to arrange.

BAD ASTRONOMY

(Grades 5 and older)

30 min.

This show explores misconceptions and misinformation in astronomy. Some of the topics in the show are UFOs, the moon landing “hoax,” astronomy in the movies, and astrology.

BLACK HOLES

(Grades 5 and older)

37 min.

All about one of the universe's most mysterious kinds of objects: black holes. The show features some of the most intense visual effects ever created on the subject. Narrated by John de Lancie ("Q" from several of the *Star Trek* series).

DAWN OF THE SPACE AGE

(Grades 5 and older)

41 min.

Re-live the excitement of the early days of space exploration, from the launch of the first artificial satellite sputnik, to the magnificent lunar landings and privately operated space flights. Be immersed and overwhelmed with this most accurate historic reconstruction of man's first steps into space. Meet the men and women who took part in these death-defying endeavors. Witness their drive, their passion, and their perseverance to explore in *Dawn of the Space Age*.

ECLIPSE

(General Audience)

30-45 min.

Total solar eclipses have been described as the most awesome sight in all of nature. Although seemingly rare, they actually happen regularly somewhere on Earth. Learn about all of the different kinds of eclipses, discover how they can be predicted, and view some of the most spectacular eclipse events of the last decade.

EXPANDED VIEW

(Grades 5 and older)

22 min.

Expanded View explores some of the most beautiful deep space objects through the eyes of the Hubble, Spitzer, and Chandra space telescopes. We'll see how viewing the heavens through different parts of the electromagnetic spectrum yield new and valuable information about the universe.

THE EXPLORERS

(Grades 5-12)

45 min.

Follow Polynesian voyagers as they cross the Pacific Ocean. Students will discover and apply the techniques used by these explorers. The program concludes with a look at our future exploration of Mars.

FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD

(Grades 1–5)

35-45 min. An important era in American history has a surprising astronomical connection. Follow one family's flight to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

FRACTALS

(Grades 1 and older)

Six available: 1.5 to 3 min. each

Fractals are beautiful self-repeating patterns that exist many places in nature: lightning, trees, river deltas, our own bodies, galaxies, and more. Based on mathematical formulas, these short programs can be an adjunct to math class or just a great aesthetic experience. Add to a full-length show for no extra charge.

FROM THE NORTH POLE TO THE EQUATOR

(Grades 5-8)

45 min.

Students will make a solar latitude calculator using the North Star then travel to the equator and to the North Pole and compare the different views of the daytime and nighttime skies.

FROM THE NORTH POLE TO THE EQUATOR

(General audience)

30-45 min.

The secret to knowing your latitude on Earth lies in locating the North Star and the celestial equator. Participants will make a solar latitude calculator that uses the North Star to indicate the Sun's changing position from different latitudes. They will then travel to the equator and to the North Pole and compare the different views of the daytime and nighttime skies.

GALILEO: THE POWER OF THE TELESCOPE

(Grades 6 and older)

28 min.

Two eyes and two pieces of glass revolutionized human understanding 400 years ago. The eyes belonged to Galileo Galilei and the two pieces of glass were the lenses of his telescope. This show relates his personal and powerful story and describes how his discoveries displaced long-held views of the universe.

THE GREAT DINOSAUR CAPER

(Grades 5 and older)

40 min.

Detective Tyrone Rex and client Sarah Topps investigate the disappearance of the dinosaurs.

HUBBLE VISION

(Grades 5 and older)

30 min.

This show features exciting Hubble images woven into an engaging story of cosmic exploration, bringing the wonders of the universe to audiences everywhere. A fascinating tour of the cosmos - from Earth orbit.

IBEX: SEARCH FOR THE EDGE OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM

(Grades 6 and older)

31 min.

NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer (IBEX) will explore the boundary between our solar system and the rest of the galaxy. This show looks at how IBEX was created and follows its investigations at the edge of our galactic home.

JOURNEY INTO THE LIVING CELL

(Grades 7 and older)

40 min.

Take a 3-D journey into the intricate workings of a living cell.

LASER LIGHT SHOWS

(General Audience)

40-50 min.

Listen to your favorite rock music—The Beatles, Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, U2 and more—while being dazzled by the multicolored laser light show on the dome. These shows contain lyrics to popular music and some may not be appropriate for all audiences.

THE LEO MYSTERY HOUR

(Grades 5 and older)

40 min.

Figuring the time of a crime is an important task for any CSI. In this interactive family show, participants will learn how to use the stars to tell time. To get underway, everyone will assemble their personal "Big Dipper Clock" and then use it to determine whether the "AlienNapper" was present at the scene of the suspected planetarium crime scene.

MONTHLY SKYWATCH

(Grades 5 and older)

50 min.

Students learn to use a simple star map to find the constellations and planets currently visible. Maps provided.

THE NATURE OF SCIENCE

(High School-college)

20 min.

How exactly does science work? How do scientist discover new information? This inspiring show looks at the process called science and discovers the ways it has changed the way we look at the world.

(School show only)

OUR UNIVERSE: THE UNIVIEW EXPERIENCE

(Grades 4 and older)

30-40 min.

This live program takes you on a tour of our amazing, 14-billion-year-old universe as documented in the American Museum of Natural History. A few volunteers will have the opportunity to use an X-Box controller to fly our "spaceship" from planet to planet and out beyond our own Milky Way Galaxy. Ready. Set. Engage!

PLANET QUEST

(Grades 5 and older)

30-45 min.

Travel through the Solar System, exploring planets and satellites, and possibly encountering a comet. The exact destinations are not determined until the members of the audience vote on their preferences - whether the searing sun, icy Pluto, or any of the worlds between.

SATURN: JEWEL OF THE HEAVENS

(Grades 5 and older)

36 min.

Audiences can experience an immersive exploration of one of the most amazing and dynamic planetary collections of our solar system. From its bizarre moons with mysterious features, to the millions of icy particles that compose the enigmatic rings, this is the three-dimensional tour of the Saturnian system that goes beyond the CG experience. It's like flying piggyback on the Cassini spacecraft!

SEASONAL STARGAZING

(Grades 3 and older)

Short: 6 min. Long: 17 min.

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THE SUN: OUR VERY OWN STAR

(Grades PS and older)

50 min.

Explores how the sun affects almost everything on Earth.

TIMESPACE

(Grades 5 and older)

30 min.

TimeSpace transports audiences across the universe over 14 billion years to see and experience the Big Bang, the doom of the dinosaurs, the sudden appearance of Halley's Comet in the Yucatan sky, Apollo 11's moon landing and man's first steps on the moon, and a leap into the future to 3001.

A TRAVELER'S GUIDE TO MARS

(General Audience)

20 min.

Get ready for the most immersive space journey yet. Soar through a digital landscape on a guided tour of the once mysterious surface of Mars. Traverse ancient lakebeds and channels in search of the history of Mars's watery past.

TWO SMALL PIECES OF GLASS

(Grades 5 and older)

25 min.

While attending a local star party, two teenage students learn how the telescope has helped us understand our place in space and how telescopes continue to expand our understanding of the universe. Also included: *Current Sky*

A WALK THROUGH THE WINTER CIRCLE

(Grades 5 and older)

40 min.

The Winter Circle, centered on the famous constellation Orion, is the best-known section of the seasonal skies. It also contains the story of the life of a star. Participants will discover how to decode this cosmic story from star birth to star death.

WHERE IN THE UNIVERSE IS CARMEN SANDIEGO?

(Grades 2-6)

55 min.

This show features a tour of our solar system in a story based on the popular television series. Carmen has stolen the rings of Saturn and it is the mission of the audience to track Carmen down. Class participation in the search helps bring her to justice.