

Planetarium

Planetarium programs for school groups are by advanced reservation only. Programs are available at 10:30am and 11:30am. January through June additional programs are available at 1:30pm as noted.

Live Programs

Beyond Your Backyard Sky

**Grades:** 6 - 12  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 45 minutes  
**NGSS:** MS-ESS1-1, 2, 3; HS-ESS1-4  
• Explore the current sky and compare observations of stars and planets  
• Launch from a backyard view of the sky into space and through the solar system and Milky Way galaxy  
• See how the stars and planets of the nighttime sky fit into the universe as a whole

Cruise the Cosmos

**Grades:** 6 - 12  
**Capacity:** 100  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** MS-ESS1-1, 2, 3; HS-ESS1-2, 4  
*This program is only available at 1:30pm*  
• Fly through the solar system and beyond the galaxy to explore the universe  
• See how the stars and planets in the night sky fit into our universe

Exploring Planets

**Grades:** 3 - 5  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 45 minutes  
**NGSS:** 4-PS4-1, 3; 5-ESS1-1, 2  
• Fly through the solar system to investigate features of planets and dwarf planets  
• Explore characteristics of a planet  
• Learn about current space missions

Hidden Life of Stars

*(New this year!)*  
**Grades:** 5 - 12  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 45 minutes  
**NGSS:** 5-ESS1-1; MS-PS2-2, 4; MS-ESS1-2  
• Explore the top questions people have about stars  
• Learn about star life cycles, what makes a star a star, and how many stars there are  
• Find out how the Sun compares to the other stars in the universe

Seasons in the Sky

**Grades:** 5 - 7  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 45 minutes  
**NGSS:** 5-ESS1-1, 2; MS-ESS1-1, 2, 3; MS-PS4-2  
*This program is also available at 1:30pm*  
• Tour seasonal constellations of the night sky  
• Explore reasons for the seasons  
• Learn how to use a starmap for backyard stargazing

Shapes in the Sky

**Grades:** K - 2  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** 1-ESS1-1, 2  
• Look for familiar shapes among the stars in the sky  
• Imagine and create personal star patterns  
• Observe patterns of the motion of stars and the Moon

Stories in the Stars

**Grades:** 3 - 8  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 45 minutes  
**NGSS:** 5-ESS1-2; MS-ESS1-1  
• See how different or similar the night sky looks in a tour around the world  
• Find out how people from all around the world look up at the same stars and see different pictures

The Sky Tonight

**Grades:** 3 - 5  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 45 minutes  
**NGSS:** 4-PS4-2; 5-ESS1-2  
*This program is also available at 1:30pm*  
• Observe current objects in the night sky  
• Find and identify stars, planets, and phases of the Moon  
• Learn how to use a starmap for backyard stargazing

Recorded Programs

Cosmic Colors

**Grades:** 4 - 12  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** 4-PS3-2, 3; 4-PS4-1, 2; 4-LS1-2; MS-PS4-1, 2, 3; HS-PS4-1, 2, 3; HS-ESS1-3  
• View the human eye up close and discover what structures allow us to see the visible light spectrum  
• Discover the many reasons for color to find out why the sky is blue and why Mars is red  
• Explore the invisible side of the electromagnetic spectrum and see how different wavelengths can be used in everyday life

Colors of the Solar System

**Grades:** PreK4 - 2  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 15 minutes  
**NGSS:** 2-ESS1-1  
• Tour our solar system through crayon likenesses of the Sun, Moon, and planets  
• Explore the solar system's primary members and what makes them special  
• Make comparisons to different places in our solar system

Forward to the Moon

**Grades:** 3 - 12  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** 3-5-ETS1-1, 2, 3; MS-ETS1-1, 2, 3, 4; HS-ETS1-1, 2, 4  
• Learn about NASA's 21<sup>st</sup> century Artemis program  
• Discover how we are planning toward a sustainable future in space  
• Follow the exciting next step in our mission to explore the universe

One World One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure

**Grades:** PreK4 - 2  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** K-PS3-1, 2; 1-ESS1-1  
• Enjoy an introduction to planetarium viewing for early learners  
• Follow Sesame Street's Big Bird and Elmo as they explore the night sky  
• Take an imaginary trip to the Moon with Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu, a Muppet from the Chinese co-production of Sesame Street

Solar System Odyssey

**Grades:** 3 - 7  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** 3-LS4-4; MS-ESS1-2, 3  
• Go on a futuristic journey through the solar system  
• Set out on a mission to discover a new home to colonize  
• Learn what makes a world an ideal habitat for life and what it would take for humans to live there

To Space and Back

**Grades:** 4 - 12  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** 4-PS4-2; 4-ESS3-2; 5-ESS1-1; 5-ESS2-1; 5-ESS3-1; 5-PS2-1; MS-PS4-2, 3; MS-LS1-3, 8; MS-ESS1-2; MS-ESS3-2, 3; HS-PS4-2, 5; HS-ESS1-2, 4  
• Find the value of human ingenuity and engineering through technologies that influence everyday life  
• Realize how we benefit from technology developed for space  
• Discover what we owe to human curiosity and the spirit of discovery

Unveiling the Invisible Universe

**Grades:** 6 - 12  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** MS-PS4-1, 2, 3; HS-PS4-1, 2, 3; HS-ESS1-3  
• Discover the invisible side of the electromagnetic spectrum  
• Learn about the technologies that astronomers use to investigate cosmic phenomena

We Are Aliens

**Grades:** 4 - 12  
**Capacity:** 140  
**Length:** 35 minutes  
**NGSS:** 4-PS4-1; 5-PS3-1; 5-ESS2-1; MS-PS2-4; MS-LS4-2  
• Explore how the understanding of life on Earth guides the search for alien life elsewhere in the universe  
• See how astronomers detect planets around other stars and how to identify which might be habitable  
• Consider how different science disciplines work together to answer the question "Are we alone in the universe?"

