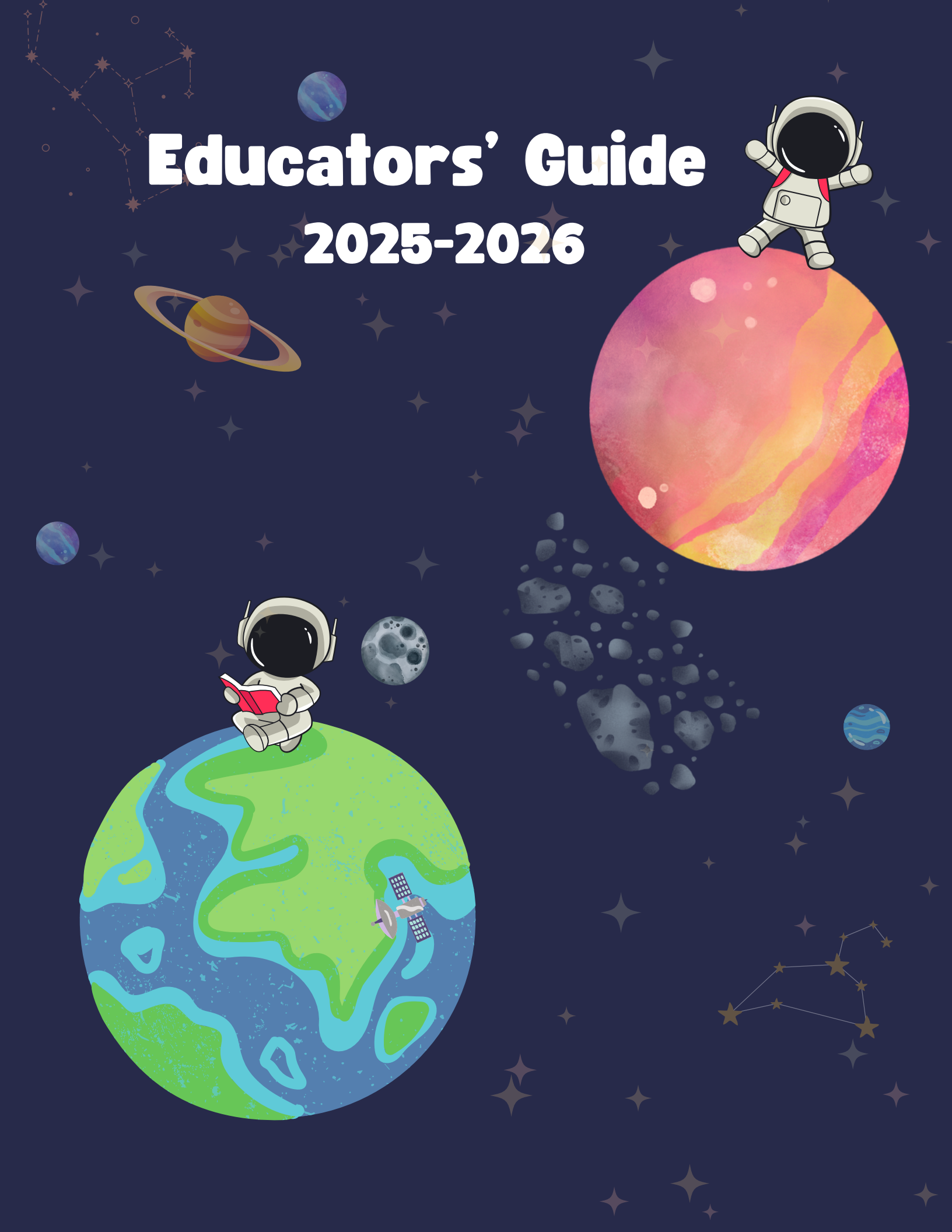
Educators' Guide
2025-2026



Dear Educator,

Field trip season is right around the corner! The Herrett Center is elated to welcome you and your students back for another season of exploration, innovation, and excitement.

The purpose of this guide is to increase the learning opportunities your kiddos will participate in during their visit with us.

The Educators' Guide is filled with new opportunities, tips, and standards to better serve you. This year, program lesson plans will become available on our website: herrett.csi.edu. Please check these out, as well as read this guide before your visit.

We are dedicated to encouraging critical thinking, hands-on experiments, meaningful connections, and engaging experiences that will last a lifetime. We look forward to meeting you and your students on their next field trip to the Herrett Center!

All the best,

Aarianna Harmon
Education/Collections Coordinator

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Content Standards, Confirmation Guides, and Lesson Plans

Field trips can come with lots of questions; and we're here to help!
Let's get started:

"What are the museum content standards? Are they available for teachers to view?"

-The educational programs provided by the Herrett Center follow the Idaho Content Standards as provided by the Department of education.

-The Content Standards the museum follows are absolutely available for teachers to view! They are included in program lesson plans.

"How do I request a field trip for my students?"

-All field trips require a reservation! These can be requested on our website or by calling our Event Coordinator.

-You will receive a confirmation sheet detailing your field trip schedule, guidelines, and requirements.

"How can I view the program lesson plans?"

-The program lesson plans will be available for view on our website.

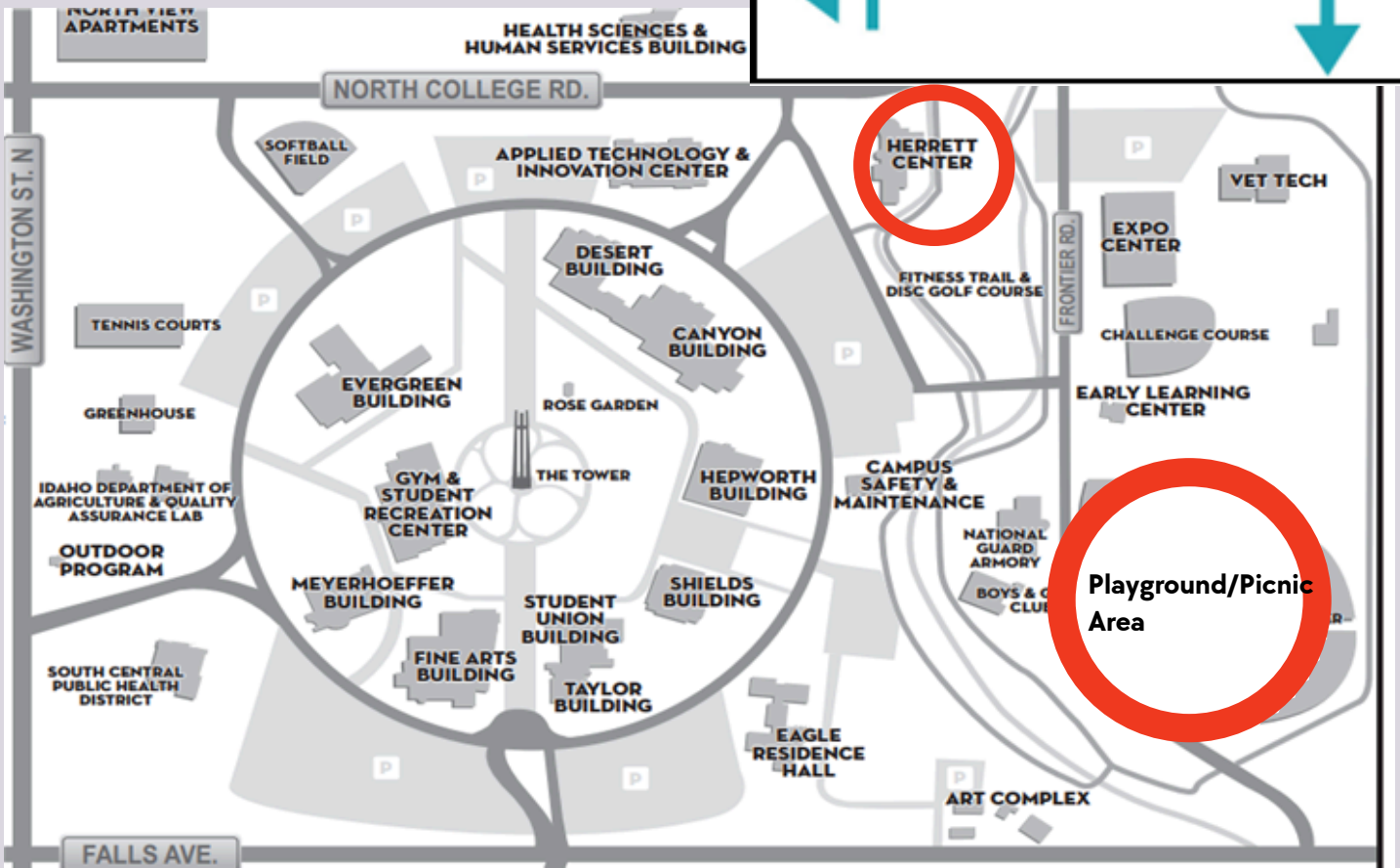
How to get here!

The Herrett Center is located on the College of Southern Idaho campus, just off North College Road.

From the North (I-84/HWY 93): After crossing the Perrine Bridge, head south on Blue Lakes Boulevard for about one mile. Turn right onto North College Road (near Lowe's and Urgent Care). After the light, bear left at the Y to stay on North College Road, then turn left onto the CSI campus after you see the museum building with its dome.

From the West/South (HWY 30/93): Turn left off Addison Avenue onto Washington Street North (near McDonald's and Swensen's). Drive north for 1.5 miles, then turn right onto North College Road. Travel East for about half a mile, then turn right onto CSI campus.

Using an online map service? 410 N. College Road is our physical address.



Pricing

Program	Price per person	Minimum charge†
Planetarium Show	$4.00	$100.00
Planetarium Double Feature (two shows)	$7.00	$175.00
Education, Reptile* or Observatory Program	$3.00	$30.00
Nighttime Observatory Program (after regular museum hours)	$3.00	$75.00
Explore Herrett Package (Must meet 25 participant minimum to receive discount. This package includes three programs of your choice, one planetarium show max; Excludes after-hours observatory programs and story time.)	$8.00	$200.00
Scavenger Hunt	$2.00	N/A
Story Time	$2.00	N/A

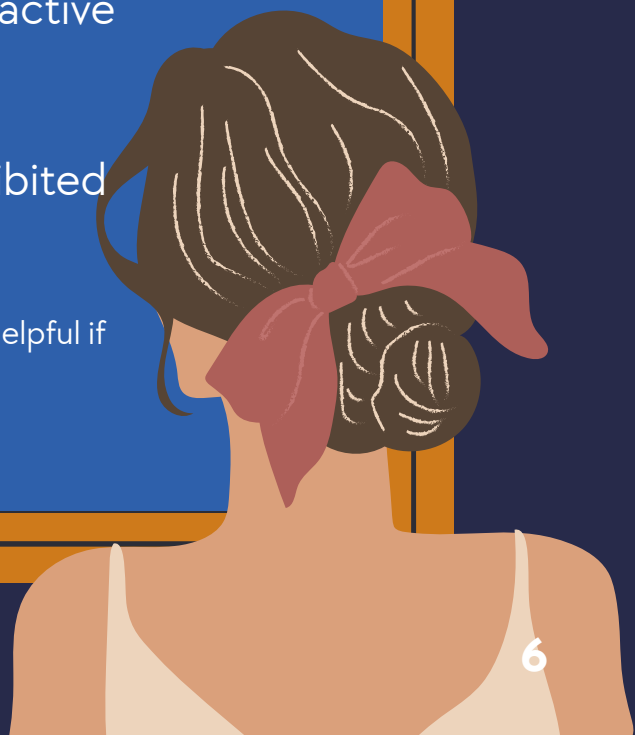
Teachers and Chaperones: Teachers and chaperones are required to accompany field trips. 1 teacher/chaperone per every 10 students is our required minimum ratio. There is no charge for teachers and chaperones that fall within this requirement.

† Minimum charge for the planetarium is based on 25 attendees; for education and observatory programs, 10 attendees. After-hours observatory program minimum is 25 attendees.
*Reptile programs have a 35-participant max. This amount is achieved per rotation or group total.

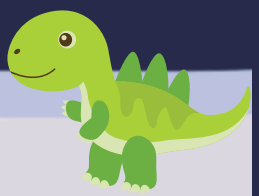
MUSEUM RULES

1. Use your best inside voice-there are other people trying to enjoy the museum too!
2. Please walk inside!
3. Please don't climb on anything!
4. No gum, food, or drinks in museum galleries, planetarium, or observatory
5. Only touch or handle interactive exhibits
6. Flash photography is prohibited

Teachers: You are your students' example! It is helpful if teachers adhere to these rules as well.



Field Trip Essentials



Gift Shop

Are you interested in allowing your students time to shop in the museum's gift shop? Here are some things to keep in mind to make for a smooth shopping experience for everyone!

-Let the Event Coordinator know at the time of booking that your students will shop! It will be added to your confirmation.

-10 or less students in the gift shop at once, please!

-At least one chaperone is required in the gift shop at all times while students are shopping!

-If your students are unable to make a purchase, please refrain from allowing them in the gift shop.

** Teachers receive a 20% discount when making purchases for classroom use!**

Shopping helps support educational programs at the museum!

Snacks, Lunch, and Breaks!

Field trips can take up a large chunk of the student's day, and kiddos gotta eat! Please keep in mind that:

-You may add a lunch or snack break to your schedule with the event coordinator; however, please keep in mind that we do not reserve rooms (including the Rick Allen Room), as they are not guaranteed to be available.

-Your students might need a break to get the wiggles out, especially if they are little! Please let the Event Coordinator know at time of booking and these can be added to your schedule as well!

Please remember that food, drinks, and gum are not allowed in museum galleries, planetarium, or observatory.

Story Time

Story time is a great addition to any field trip experience for young learners, especially at the museum. Here, you will see 5 available story time options to add to your groups' visit!

**** Please note the recommended age range, corresponding activity, and recommended themes to make story time an even better experience for your students! ****

I'M NEW!

Dinosaur Lady

By Linda Skeers

Recommended for ages 6-10 (1-5)

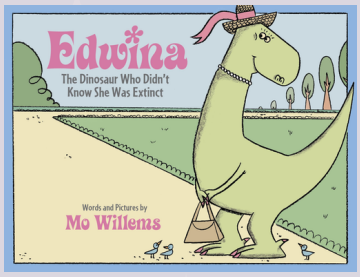
This story teaches young readers about the first female paleontologist, her discoveries, and efforts to find her place in the scientific world.

Edwina: The Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She was Extinct

By Mo Willams

Recommended for ages 3-5 (PreK-1st)

This story teaches students about the value of being kind to others, the importance of being heard, and recognizing individual differences and characteristics as an accepted part of life.



I'M NEW!

Pair me with the show: "Dinosaurs: A Story of Survival!"

Story Time

How the Meteorite Got to the Museum

By Jessie Hartland

Recommended for ages 6-9 (K-4)
****This activity also has modifications for 6-12th grade****

This story shows students how a meteorite made its way through space and Earth's atmosphere to wind up in a museum in New York City.

After the story, students will participate in a crater making activity.

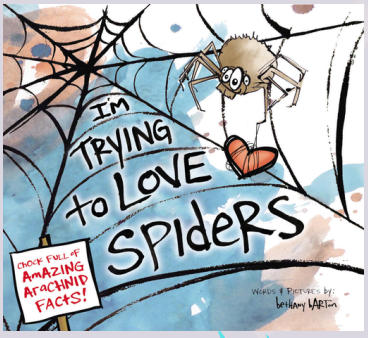
I'm Trying to Love Spiders

By Bethany Barton

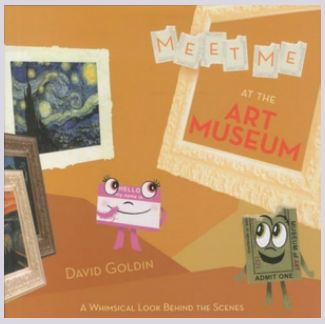
Recommended for ages 4-8 (PreK-3)

This story teaches kiddos that spiders are helpful and necessary to the environment, even though they can be a little scary!

After the story, students will create spider webs in a web-lacing activity, color pages, and get the chance to observe some cool Tarantula friends!



Pair me with a Reptile Program!



I'M NEW!

Meet Me at the Art Museum

By David Goldin

Recommended for ages 5-7 (K-2)

This story follows a lonely ticket stub who receives a behind the scenes tour of an art museum from an unlikely friend.

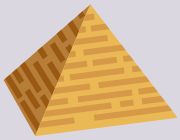
After the story, participants will have time to create collages! If available, we will explore the art gallery together.

Programs

Museum education is an essential part of your field trip experience! Your students can have fun, all while learning something new!

In the following pages, you will find educational programming offered for the 2025-2026 school year.

****Please note the recommended age range, corresponding activity, and recommended themes to make educational programming an even better experience for your students!****



Ancient Technology

Recommended for ages 6-18 (1st-12th grade).

This is a returning program with a twist! Your students will have the opportunity to explore ancient technology, from pump drills, to pyramid building, to Mayan glyphs!

Pair me with a scavenger hunt!

Early Idaho

I'M NEW!

Recommended for ages 8-18 (4th-12th grade).

This program discusses early life in the Gem State, and the struggles of Indigenous communities throughout Idaho's history.

Pair me with Hunting and Gathering!

Programs

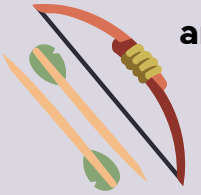
Hunting and Gathering

Recommended for ages 6-18 (1st-12th)

This program teaches students about the hunting and gathering techniques of Idaho Tribes from early history to present day. During the presentation, your class will be able to observe hunting and gathering tools, and head outside for the corresponding activity detailed below.

Activity:
1st- 5th grade: hunting and gathering outdoor tag!

6th-12th grade: Atlatls! This activity teaches students how to throw with the atlatl, a tool that pre-dates the bow and arrow.



Pair me with a scavenger hunt!

Available Spring 2026

I'M NEW!

Our Journeys

****This program is available for 11th and 12th graders, CSI admission tours, and college students****

Are you interested in exploring humanity's journeys, struggles, and adaptions over time?
This program offers team building activities, as well as discovering individual belonging.

Programs

The Science of Flight

Recommended for ages 6-18 (1st-12th grade)

This program teaches participants about methods of flight, the first aircraft, and technological advancements in aircraft!

****This program is only available when "Dream to Fly," the planetarium show, is booked. ****

Pair me with an observatory program!

I'M NEW!

"We All Have Teeth!" Program

Recommended for ages 6-12 (1st-7th)

This program teaches students about connections between human teeth and the teeth of prehistoric animals!

During the presentation, your class will be able to observe real fossilized teeth from the Columbian Mammoth, replica elephant teeth, replica human teeth, and more!

Pair me with a scavenger hunt!

****This program can be modified for high school students**

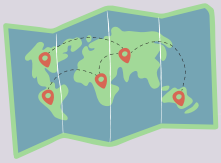
Scavenger Hunts

Scavenger hunts are a great addition to your field trip visit! With a 10-30 minute activity time, your students can complete one of the following hunts:

Find the Fossils! Available for:
PreK-2nd
3rd-5th
6th-12th

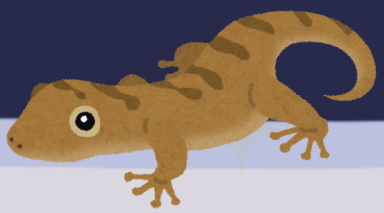
Indigenous Communities. Available for:
PreK-2nd
3rd-5th
6th-12th

Early Idaho. Available for:
4th grade and up.
****Offered only to groups of 20 or less****



Our Journeys. Available for:
11th-12th graders and college tours.
****Offered only to groups of 20 or less****

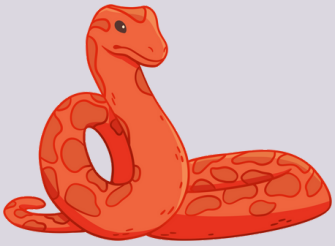
Reptiles



Program

Are you interested in giving your students the opportunity to learn about reptile friends, such as snakes and lizards? Then the reptile program is for you!

The Herrett Center houses over 20 reptiles, many of which love field trips and meeting new friends!



DURING THE PROGRAM, PLEASE REMEMBER:

Stay seated unless otherwise instructed

Don't pet or hold without permission

Use your best inside voice

Raise your hand if you have a question or comment

Be gentle and respectful to the animals

****Teachers: You are your students' example! It is helpful if teachers adhere to these rules as well.****

**** Reptile programs are only offered to groups of 35 or less participants, including rotations. ****

Gallery Tours

Are you interested in letting your students explore the galleries themselves (self-guided), or with an employee (guided)? Here's what you should know!

Self-guided:

-Independent exploring

-Usually takes 10-30 minutes, depending on group size.

-Great time to add a scavenger hunt!

Guided:

-Guided tour with a staff member

-Usually takes 30-45 minutes

-Small groups are best!

Observatory

The observatory is an essential part of any field trip visit to the Herrett Center! Your students won't want to miss out on:

-The Norman Herrett 24" reflector telescope

-Solar telescopes

-A guided tour of the Centennial Observatory

-And more!

****The Herrett Center Observatory accommodates 25 students per group or rotation****

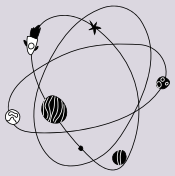
****The Herrett Center Observatory is wheelchair accessible****

Please note: The observatory dome and solar telescopes cannot operate in inclement weather, including cloudy conditions. In this event, the program will include a demonstration of the 24" telescope without actual viewing through the telescopes.

Programs

Outside of telescope viewings and observatory tours, these programs are provided in our library, and offer an in-depth analysis of the telescope and our solar system!

Keep in mind while booking an observatory program, they are:



In center library

Offered to groups of 40 or less

30-45 minute activity time

Planetarium

If you've visited the Herrett Center, you know you can't miss a show at the Faulkner Planetarium! This is a unique, one-of-a-kind experience for students and teachers alike!

Things to keep in mind if you're booking a show for your school group:

- No gum, food or drink allowed in the Planetarium
- 144 seats in the theater
- If you leave during the show, you cannot return
- Staff will seat your group
- Cellphones off (unless for medical reasons)
- $100 minimum (or 25 people)

Planetarium Shows

3-2-1 Liftoff! The Space Adventures of Elon the Hamster

Recommended for 1st-3rd grade: What happens when a robot from space crashes in a down-on-his luck hamster engineer's junkyard? An opportunity to learn, that's what! Elon will have to call on his engineering and problem-solving skills to get his new friend Eight back to her ship before it leaves orbit. Adding to the challenge, Elon can't understand Eight's language. Students will gain an understanding of experimentation and problem solving via this entertaining program.

Concepts: Hypothesizing, experimenting, evaluating experimental results (especially unex pected results, or failures), problem solving, the nature of the atmosphere.

OC

The Accidental Astronauts

Recommended for 1st-2nd grade: Follow the adventures of Cy, Annie, and Cy's dog Armstrong, as they embark upon an unexpected journey into space! This wonderful Earth, Sun and Moon adventure show is written by award-winning children's book writer Kristyn Crow. Concepts: Earth's rotation and orbit, moon's orbit, phases of the moon, geography of the moon, lunar environment, physical nature of the sun, and the uniqueness of the Earth.

Concepts: Earth's rotation and orbit, moon's orbit, phases of the moon, geography of the moon, lunar environment, physical nature of the sun, and the uniqueness of the Earth.

OC

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

Ancient Caves

Recommended for 5th grade on up: Paleoclimatologist Dr. Gina Mosely studies our planet's prehistoric climate. She is particularly interested in the periods when ice ages transition to warmer periods, called interglacials. But how, exactly, does one study a climate that no longer exists? The answer is caves, which pre serve a record of the past climate within their stalactites and stalagmites. Adding to the chal lenge, many of the best caves for this kind of science are currently flooded. Students will dis cover how Dr. Mosely uses cave formations to study the ancient climate and the dangers in volved for those who risk their lives cave diving to bring her samples from deep within the Earth.

Concepts: Earth undergoes alternating periods of ice ages and inter glacials, natural processes in caves preserve a record of the climate over time, cave formations grow slowly and non-uniform, stalac t ites and stalagmites grow layers over time, akin to tree rings.

OC

The Arctic: Our Last Great Wilderness

Recommended for 3rd grade on up: Wild. Vast. Magical. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, ANWR, is the wildest place left in North America. Lying in the northeast corner of Alaska, ANWR is home to arctic foxes, wolves, caribou, musk oxen, polar bears, numerous species of birds, and indigenous peoples. This film, produced by National Geographic's Florian Schulz, gives the first ever cinematic account of this little known land. It is here where some of the world's greatest wildlife spectacles unfold against a stark, yet beautiful, landscape. Discover how we are all connected to this place and why it is important to protect it.

Concepts: Species conservation and preservation.

**Please note: This film includes scenes of predation in the wild.

OC

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

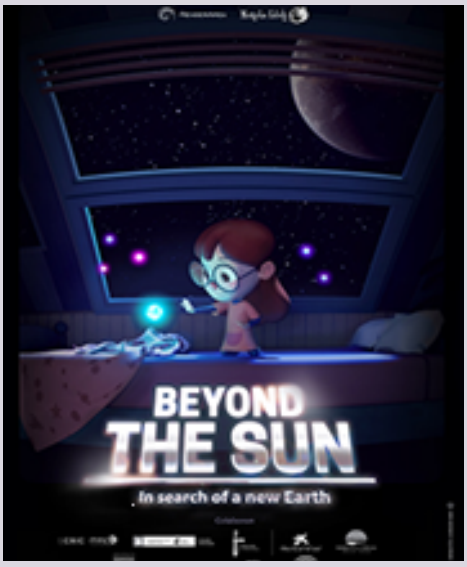
Planetarium Shows

Arora

Recommended for 3rd grade on up: The Northern and Southern Lights, better known as the aurora borealis and aurora australis, are one of Earth's most fascinating natural phenomena. Steeped in many mythologies, these ethereal lights dance across polar skies in ghostly fashion. Discover what generates the aurora here on Earth and on other planets and moons. Come, be captivated by Arora, the Icelandic goddess of the dawn and the aurora, and her tales of herself and her sisters. Behold the won der and beauty of the aurora as seen from Iceland!

Concepts: Solar flares and coronal mass ejections, solar wind, Earth's magnetic field, types of aurorae (rays, arcs, bands), cultural mythologies surrounding aurorae.

OC



Beyond the Sun: In Search of a New Earth

This film is also available in Spanish as "Mas dia del Sol: En busca de una nueva Tierra"

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade: Celeste is a curious girl, and with the help of her new friend Moon, she is about to learn about exoplanets (planets that orbit other stars). Moon also teaches her how astronomers can detect these planets, measure their size, and sense their surface conditions. Moon explains to Celeste what a planet must be like in order to have the possibility of life.

Concepts: Brief overview of solar system; other stars have planets; transit method of planetary detection; radial velocity method of planetary detection; conditions on other planets; require ments for life; light pollution; search for planets that are earth-like.

OC

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

Birth of Planet Earth

Recommended for 4th grade on up: The Solar System's formation from a huge cloud of gas and dust is tough for students to visual size. This show does an incredible job of explaining and depicting how the Earth was born. See the solar nebula collapse, countless dust particles clump into larger bodies, and asteroids coalescing into protoplanets. Observe the Earth-Theia collision that formed the Moon. Four and a half billion years roll by as today's solar system comes into being and students gain an under standing of how our Earth formed.

Concepts: Supernova synthesis of heavy elements; solar nebula; protoplanetary disc environ ment; planetary formation; characteristics of early Earth; formation of the Moon; Moon's sta bilizing effects on Earth; asteroid bombardment period; evolution to a watery world; atmos pheric development; rise of life; life's chemistry (photosynthesis).

Black Holes: Unknown Horizons

Recommended for 6th grade on up: Black holes are some of the most mysterious and intriguing objects in the universe. Ranging in size from just a few solar masses to billions of solar masses, they all possess the property that once inside the Schwarzschild radius, their gravity is so strong that not even light can escape. Explore the formation of black holes, their nature, and how they may ultimately hold the fate of the universe.

Concepts: Nature of space-time, general theory of relativity, stellar evolution & outcomes, na ture of black holes, detection of black holes, gravitational waves, black hole mergers, gravita t ional astronomy, Hawking radiation, fate of the universe.

KEY:


Live Sky Tour

New Shows


Open Captioning Available

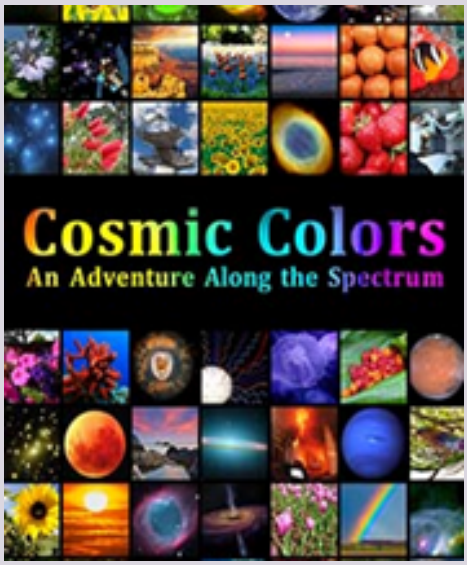

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

Cell! Cell! Cell!

Recommended for 5th-8th grade: Join Raj and Sooki 's ex-CELL-ent adventure as they examine the microscopic cells that make up all of us. Explore the human cell from within. Students will learn about the various parts of the cell and their functions; genetics, including egg fertilization and the genes that go into making each one of us unique; and the specialization of cells.

Concepts: Cell structure, DNA, genes, fertilization, stem cells, fetal cellular development, and cellular systems .



Cosmic Colors: An Adventure Along the Spectrum

Recommended for 5th grade on up: The universe is awash in radio waves, infrared light, visible light, ultraviolet light, microwaves, x-rays, and gamma rays pouring forth from various celestial objects. Learn about the electro magnetic spectrum and common, everyday application of these forms of energy in this fast paced adventure.

Concepts: Electromagnetic spectrum, visible light, infrared, radio waves, ultraviolet rays, x rays, gamma rays, wavelengths, color, and the speed of light

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

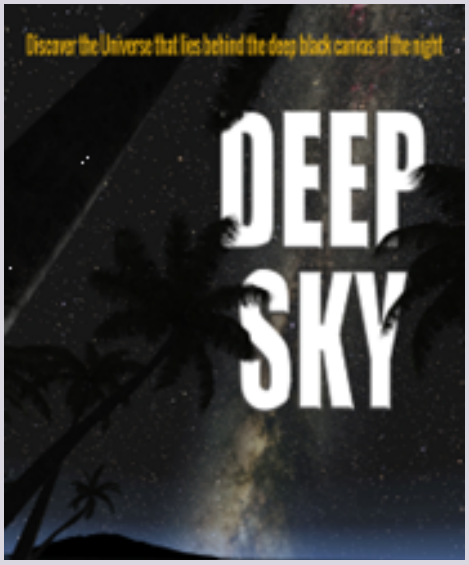
Planetarium Shows

Dancing Among the Stars

Recommended for 4th grade on up: Our planet is in constant motion. Though few realize it, our planet's constant motion carries us an amazingly fast ride. Earth's rotation about its axis and revolution around the Sun give rise to what we experience day in and day out, year in and year out. This show examines the so-called dance of our planet in space and how we can see the evidence for that dance in what we experience through observing the sky, both day and night, and our experience of the repetitive seasons. This is an excellent show that teaches the fundamentals of our planet's motions.

Concepts: Earths' rotational axis (day/night), revolution about the Sun (changing star patterns during the year), tilt of the rotational axis, seasons, the analemma, measurement of time, path of the ecliptic.

OC



Deep Sky

Recommended for 5th grade on up: For all its splendor, a starry sky is but a sliver of the universe, most of which is too distant and dim for the human eye to see. Telescopes and sensitive digital detectors reveal a "deep sky" of stellar birth and death, star clusters, distant galaxies, galactic collisions, the large-scale structure of the universe, and a background of cosmic radiation echoing across time.

Concepts: The human visual system, Messier catalog, distances in space, visualization of the positions of deep sky objects, Milky Way galaxy, local group of galaxies, sponge structure of the universe, Laniakea supercluster of galaxies, nature of various deep sky objects, Hubble deep f ield and ultra-deep field images.

OC

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

Dinosaurs: A Story of Survival

Recommended for 4th grade on up: Celeste wants to fold an origami dinosaur for a class presentation, but can't figure it out. Luckily, her good friend Moon is here to help with all things dinosaurs. Together, they will travel back in time to a very different Earth and discover many, many, dinosaurs. Little dinosaurs? Got 'em! Big dinosaurs? Got 'em! Feathered dinosaurs? Got 'em! Join these two friends as they explore the nature of dinosaurs and what led to their extinction. Or, did some survive? Discover what a chicken has to do with a dinosaur!

Concepts: Early Earth (geologic and climate changes over time), periods of the dinosaurs (Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous), Pangea and Panthalassa, mass extinctions, dinosaur evolu t ion (adaptations), dinosaur physiology, speciation, asteroid and comet impacts, dinosaur ex t inction and survival.

OC

Dream to Fly

Recommended for 4th grade on up: Have you ever dreamt that you were flying? Explore humankind's quest for flight from the ancient myths of Aladdin's flying carpet and the kites of ancient China to Leonardo da Vinci's scientific study of wings and the pioneers of actual flight. Learn how history also shaped the early days of powered aviation with the advent of world wars. This poetic and visually stunning show takes you on a journey from the time when humans could only dream of flying to our modern day world where all one needs to fly is a ticket.

Concepts: Flight in mythology, history of flight/aviation, principles of flight (drag, lift and pro pulsion), pioneers of flight and aviation: Sir George Cayley, Montgolfier brothers, Otto Lilien thal, the Wright brothers.

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

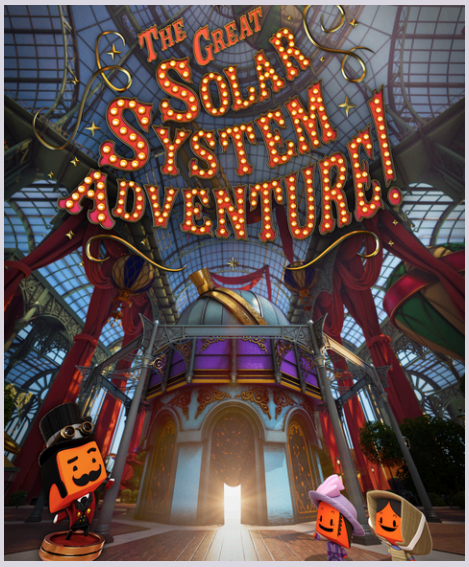
Planetarium Shows

GranPa & Zoe-Mission: Light

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade: A typical day for GranPa and Zoe in the Australian outback is interrupted when GranPa's old nemesis, Bogbog, attempts to block sunlight from reaching the Earth. Exploring and utilizing different wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum, can GranPa and Zoe foil Bogbog's diabolical plan, reveal the nature of color and light, and save the day?

Concepts: Electromagnetic spectrum, color, light waves, energy.

OC



The Great Solar System Adventure

Recommended for 3rd-6th grade: Gather around everyone! The Great Schiaparelli is about to take you on a grand adventure through the solar system. Many wonders await you, but so do great perils. Each incredible planet holds fascinating features and traits to make it unique and dangerous in its own way. Discover the heavy, thick, hot Venusian atmosphere that, without protection, would instantaneously flatten and melt you like an uncooked pancake. Attempt to land on Mars, which barely has an atmosphere to speak of. Get blown about by 1,600+ mph winds in Neptune's upper atmosphere. Yes, discover the wonders of the solar system and see if your students can survive it all.

Concepts: Overview of the solar system, introduction to the orrery, visits to each planet to explore its unique features, the nature of the solar system beyond the planets, the solar system's place in the Milky Way galaxy, our star the Sun, the very special place known as Earth.

OC

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! **New Shows**

OC **Open Captioning Available**

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

Legends of the Night Sky: Orion

Recommended between January and mid-April

Recommended for K-5th grade: The legend of Orion, the mighty hunter, comes to life! From his humble beginnings to his daring hunting exploits and romances, Orion and his faithful hunting dogs, Sirius and Procyon, move from adventure to adventure. Eventually, having earned the scorn of Apollo, Orion battles Scorpius, the scorpion, in a fight to the death. Discover how, upon his demise, Orion was spirited into the winter sky for all to see, along with his two faithful companions.

Concepts: Greek mythology, constellations, star gazing, and star hopping.

Legends of the Night Sky: Perseus & Andromeda

Recommended between October and mid-February

Recommended for K-5th grade: The classic Greek story of the princess and her hero come to life! Poor Andromeda is being sacrificed to the sea monster Cetus for the sins of her mother, Cassiopeia. Just what led to this calamity? Where is her father, Cepheus, in all this? It all sounds so terrible; she needs a hero. Never fear, for Perseus is almost here! But, before rescuing Andromeda, Perseus must survive the petrifying Gorgon, Medusa. Will the story end happily? Join us to find out.

Concepts: Greek mythology, constellations, star gazing, and star hopping.

KEY:

 **Live Sky Tour**

New Shows

OC **Open Captioning Available**

 **Teacher's Guide Available**

Planetarium Shows

Life's Question

Recommended for 4th grade on up: Life flourishes on Earth, but can it exist elsewhere? What are the essential elements of life, as we know it? How did these elements come into being? What conditions are favorable to life? Life's Question delves into these mysteries and others to explore not only the origins of life on Earth, but also the possibilities for finding life beyond our celestial shores. Discover the six crucial CHNOPS elements that comprise and drive terrestrial life.

Concepts: CHNOPS elements (carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, and sulfur), creation of elements via stellar nuclear fusion, conditions favorable to life, potential abodes of life in the solar system.

OC

The Little Star That Could

Recommended for K-2nd grade: Poor Little Star is new to the universe and just wants to see what else is out there. Judging by the reactions of the other stars he meets, he is destined to be nothing more than average. On his journey of discovery, Little Star learns what makes each star special. For some, it is their color and temperature, for others it may be their planets, or their stellar companions. Along the way, he discovers that stars can combine to form larger groups, like star clusters and galaxies. Eventually, Little Star finds his planets who tell them a little about themselves and give him his special name, the Sun.

Concepts: Star formation, star colors and temperatures, multiple star systems, star clusters, galaxies, solar systems, planets, and basic information about the planets of our solar system.

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure

Recommended for PreK-1st grade: Join Sesame Street's Big Bird, Elmo, and their friend from faraway China, Hu Hu Zhu, as they learn about the sky in this fun adventure. The three sky watchers learn about sunsets and finding starry patterns like the Big Dipper in the night sky. Students are encouraged to use their imaginations and actively participate in this program.

Concepts: The sun is a star, day and night, star patterns like the Big Dipper, the moon, physical characteristics of the moon, faraway places, and using one's imagination.

Sea Lions: Life by a Whisker

Recommended for 2nd grade on up: Meet the Whiskers, a family of endangered Australian sea lions. Baby Otto has no one looking out for her, other than her mother. Then again, maybe there is somebody else: Ranger Dirk Holman is charged with preserving this species along Australia's rugged southern coast. This coming of age tale follows Otto and her mother as they struggle to survive, and follows Dirk as he travels to California to learn the secrets of the California sea lion's recovery. Will Dirk discover how to preserve the Australian sea lion? Will Otto survive the harsh realities of life off the southern Australian coast? Discover the answers in this film that is sure to engage your students.

Concepts: Species conservation and preservation.

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

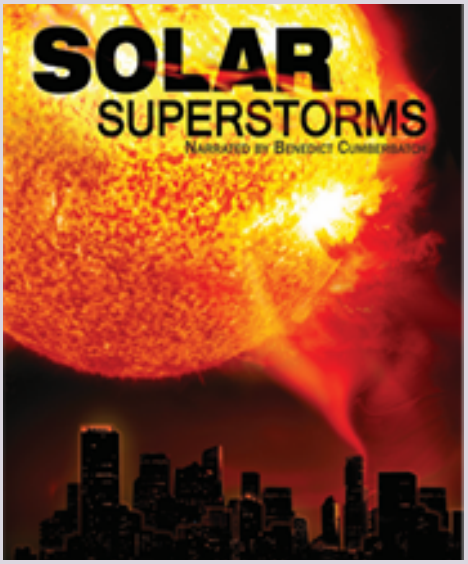
Serengeti

Recommended for Kindergarten on up: Come explore the African Serengeti in this beautiful giant screen film. Encounter one of the world's oldest and most vibrant ecosystems, whose story is told through the million-animal, ever-moving migration of the wildebeest. Here, each creature, from the smallest insect to the largest land mammal, has an important role to play. What series of events happened to create this incredible ecosystem? Can we learn its intricacies to save and protect the Serengeti? Come see how this extraordinary place came to be.

Concepts: Ecosystems, biodiversity, habitats, migration, predators, scavengers, herbivore, om nivore, carnivore, volcanism, seasons of the Serengeti, web of life.

**Please note: This film includes scenes of predation in the wild.

OC



Solar Superstorms

Recommended for 6th grade on up: Our star, the sun, goes through an 11 year cycle, from varying relative quiescence to a substantial sunspot activity and eruptions of prominences across its surface. During solar maximum, the sun can discharge floods of charged particles into space by way of coronal mass ejections. Most of these ejections never cross our planet's paths, but those that do can affect space weather around the globe and spawn beautiful auroral displays. While most geomagnetic storms are relatively harmless, occasionally the sun spews forth a storm of particles so ex treme it becomes a superstorm, with the potential to wreak havoc on our technologically de pendent society. Discover the nature of our star and the danger it can pose.

Concepts: Star formation, supernovae, plasma, supercomputer modeling of the sun, solar dy namics, magnetism, sunspots, coronal mass ejections, auroras.

OC

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

Space Oases

Recommended for 5th grade on up: We live on a watery planet and water is essential to life as we know it, but is Earth the only place in the solar system where it exists? Come along as we set out in search of water, from the hellish conditions of Mercury and Venus, to the gaseous giants, like Jupiter and Saturn, and out to the far reaches of the system. Will we find water in unexpected places? Are there worlds more watery than our own? Space Oases will expand your students' knowledge as we trace water through the solar system.

OC

The Sun: Our Living Star

Recommended for 4th grade on up: The sun has shone on our world for four and a half billion years, providing the energy that drives the winds, our weather, and all life. The passage of the sun's fiery disc across the sky – day by day, month by month – is how civilizations have tracked time. As a typical dwarf star, the sun consumes 600 million tons of hydrogen each second and is 500 times as massive as all the planets combined. Discover the secrets of our star and experience never-before-seen images of the sun's violent surface in an immersive format.

Concepts: Sun's birth and age, use for tracking time, apparent motions, physical structure and properties, and ties to Earth's weather; source of Earth's energy; life's dependence on the sun; photosynthesis; heliocentric model of solar system; comparison to other stars; nuclear fusion; remote observations; electromagnetic spectrum; space weather; renewable energy.

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

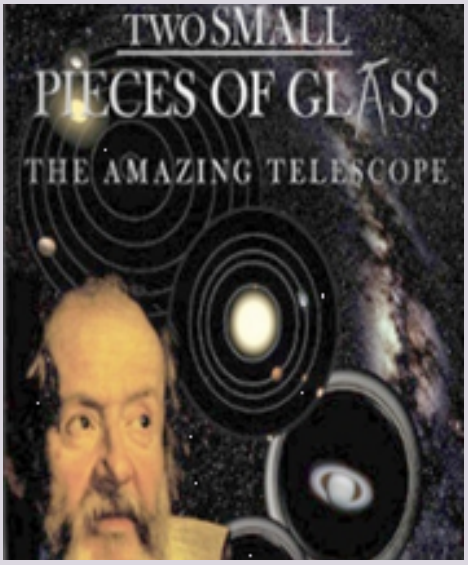
Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

T. Rex

Recommended for 2nd grade on up: Behold, the G.O.A.T! That's "Greatest Of All Tyrants," Tyrannosaurus Rex, a.k.a. "T-Rex." This giant screen film explores how new discoveries shape our current understanding of one of the most fearsome dinosaurs to walk the Earth. This ultimate predator is steeped in myth, mystery, and misinformation. T.Rex, the movie, will shed light on the true nature of its namesake as paleontologists now know it. From digging T-Rex fossils in the Hell Creek Badlands to stepping back in time, via CGI, Tyrannosaurus Rex will come to life on the planetarium dome and give insight to the origins and life of this so-called "king of the tyrant lizards" on the island continent of Laramidia.

Concepts: Nature of the Hell Creek Badlands region 67 million years ago, paleontological re search, past and present depictions of T-Rex, Tyrannosaur lineage and origins, physical traits of T-Rex, probable life span and life style of the T-Rex.



Two small pieces of glass: The amazing telescope

Recommended for 5th grade on up: In 1609, Galileo first turned his crude "spy glass" telescope skyward. Four centuries later, the telescope has evolved into modern wonders of technology like the Hubble Space Tele scope. Join two young sky watchers and their astronomer friend as they explore the universe and learn why telescopes are such important tools of science.

Concepts: Design and nature of telescopes, historical overview of astronomy, spectrum, optics.

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

Unseen Universe

Recommended for 6th grade on up: Look at the night sky and you are seeing the universe as humankind has for almost all of history. The visible light that our eyes detect has revealed much about the universe. Yet, it is only the tip of the iceberg: Radio, infrared, ultraviolet, x-rays, and other wavelengths of the electro magnetic spectrum carry a wealth of information about planets, stars, and galaxies. The relatively recent capability of detecting energy from across the spectrum, together with the added power of interlinking telescopes continents apart, is finally lifting the veil on the secrets of our unseen universe. Discover these technologies and their revelations on this journey into the realm beyond what our eyes can see.

Concepts: Electromagnetic spectrum (radio, infrared, visible, ultraviolet, etc.), observing the universe across the entire spectrum, telescopes (Earth and space based), galaxies, supernovae, black holes, neutrinos, gravitational waves, networking of telescopes.

OC

Violent Universe: Catastrophes of the Cosmos

Recommended for 4th grade on up: Few things appear more peaceful than a quiet, starry sky. Yet, terrific, unseen forces shape the cosmos: Galaxies collide, supernova explosions rip stars apart, black holes in the hearts of galaxies devour whole stars, and asteroids and comets streak earthward.

Concepts: Galactic collisions, galactic dust clouds, supernovae, black holes, meteor storms, me teor showers, comet/asteroid/planetary collisions, cratering, gamma ray bursts, and the Milky Way's central black hole.

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! **New Shows**

OC **Open Captioning Available**

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows

We Are Stars

This film is also available in Spanish as "Somos Estrellas."

Recommended for 4th grade on up: With the arrival of the carnival comes the Time Master, whose tent leads you on a whimsical tour of cosmic time. From the Big Bang to the present, discover how the universe brought forth life on one small planet orbiting a yellow star. The Time Master's mechanical wonderments illustrate key scientific concepts that illuminate humanity's origins. This steampunk themed show blends humor and insight to illustrate how we are all made of stars.

Concepts: Big Bang, cosmology, stellar evolution, formation of elements through nuclear fu sion, planetary formation, the origins of primitive life, biological processes and evolution.

OC

Weather: Wonders and Mysteries Revealed

Recommended for 4th grade on up: The Earth's atmosphere is an ever-changing environment. Meteorology is the study of the atmosphere and changing conditions within it that result in the phenomena we call weather. Students receive an overview of various types of weather and what drives weather changes. From atmospheric heating and the water cycle to the types of storms and precipitation we experience, this show presents a broad array of weather and atmospheric phenomena that many of us experience in our daily lives.

Concepts: The Sun's role in weather, convection cell motion, Axial tilt's effect on seasons and weather, water cycle, composition of the atmosphere, cloud types and their nature, atmospheric effects on light, nature of lightning, Aurora borealis, hurricanes, Coriolis effect, supercell storm formation, tornadoes, precipitation types.

OC

KEY:

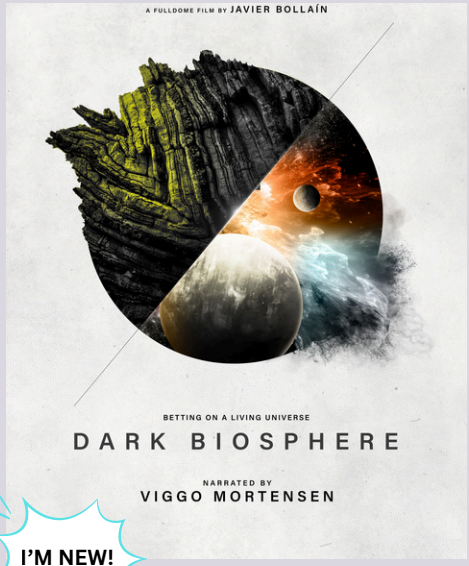
Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available

Planetarium Shows



I'M NEW!

Dark Biosphere

Recommended for 7th grade on up: What is life? Can it truly be defined? Life, as we know it, needs water, a source of carbon, minerals, and a source of energy to survive. These things exist elsewhere in our solar system and beyond. Does this mean life can exist beyond Earth? This show explores extremophiles on Earth and what their existence means in the search for life beyond our planet. Life's building blocks exist throughout the universe and can spread from place to place. Could living organisms spread from planet to planet? Might life have migrated to Earth? This thought-provoking show looks at the nature of life, our origins, and what it might mean.

Concepts: Definition of life (attempted), Extremophiles: definition, nature, living conditions, ramifications for life beyond Earth. Life's requirements: carbon, minerals, water, and a source of energy; water within the solar system, CHNOPS (Carbon, Hydrogen, Nitrogen, Oxygen, Phosphorus, and Sulfur), organic molecules; Panspermia: molecular and biological, exoplanets, L.U.C.A. (Last Universal Common Ancestor)

OC

KEY:

Live Sky Tour

I'M NEW! New Shows

OC Open Captioning Available

Teacher's Guide Available