Noble Planetarium Classroom Companion

Live: Take Me to the Stars

SHOW OVERVIEW

Take Me to the Stars is a fully live planetarium show about the stars and constellations. Our presenters will point out and describe prominent pictures and constellations in the sky and accompany them with mythological stories and lore. This show is completely controlled by the presenter and can be tailored to any audiennce.

Length: 10-25 minutes
Grade level: K-12

EXTENSION IDEAS FOR TEACHERS:

Design a Constellation – Students connect star dots to create a new constellation and write a short myth explaining how their constellation came to be.
Create a Constellation Viewer – Students poke holes in a paper cup or cardstock to model a real constellation and shine a flashlight through it to project the star pattern.
Constellation Myth Match – Students read a short myth connected to a constellation and match the story to the correct star pattern.
Star Brightness Sort – Students observe images of stars and sort them by brightness and color to identify patterns in the night sky.
Human Constellations – Students work together to form constellation shapes using their bodies and string to model how stars connect to create patterns.

Critical Thinking Questions:

Ask students, *"Based on what you learned in the show, why do constellations appear to move across the sky?"*

Ask students, *"Based on what you learned in the show, why can people in different parts of the world see different constellations?"*

Ask students, *"Based on what you learned in the show, why do some stars appear brighter than others? What patterns do you notice?"*

Ask students, *"Based on what you learned in the show, how do scientists use patterns in the sky to learn about space?"*

PROGRAM TEKS

K.8(B) identify events that have repeating patterns, including seasons of the year and day and night
K.8(C) observe, describe, and illustrate objects in the sky such as the clouds, Moon, and stars, including the Sun
2.8(C) observe, describe, and record patterns of objects in the sky, including the appearance of the Moon
3.8(D) identify the planets in Earth's solar system and their position in relation to the Sun
5.8(C) demonstrate that Earth rotates on its axis once approximately every 24 hours causing the day/night cycle and the apparent movement of the Sun across the sky
6.11(A) describe the physical properties, locations, and movements of the Sun, planets, moons, meteors, asteroids, and comets
8.7(B) demonstrate and predict the sequence of events in the lunar cycle
8.8(A) describe components of the universe, including stars, nebulae, and galaxies, and use models such as the Hertzsprung-Russell diagram for classification
8.8(B) recognize that the Sun is a medium-sized star located in a spiral arm of the Milky Way galaxy and that the Sun is many thousands of times closer to Earth than any other star