

Stars and Stories

Pre-K & Kindergarten

Teacher's Guide



Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

Description

In this planetarium field trip students will learn about the sun, moon and night time stars and participate in constellation stories.

Length: 30 minutes. **Adult chaperones recommended:** 1

Content Standards

| Subject | Gr | Standard | Objective/"I can" Statements |
|-------------------|-------|--|--|
| Earth/Space | Pre-K | With modeling and support, recognize familiar elements of the natural environment and understand that these may change over time (e.g., soil, weather, sun and moon). | I can recognize parts of the solar system and predict how they change in a day. |
| Earth/Space | K | The moon, sun and stars can be observed at different times of the day or night. | I can observe the moon, sun and stars at different times of the day and night. |
| Language/Literacy | Pre-K | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an understanding of the differences between fantasy and reality. • With modeling and support, describe what part of the story the illustration depicts . • With modeling and support, determine the meanings of unknown words/concepts using the context of conversations, pictures that accompany text or concrete objects. | Students explore the difference between fantasy and reality through the telling of constellation stories using the planetarium dome. |

Pre-Trip Activities

Vocabulary

| | |
|-------|-------|
| phase | sun |
| moon | stars |

Books

- Let's Go, Pegasus! By Jean Marzollo. Little Brown & Company, 2006.
- Once Upon a Starry Night by Mitton & Balit. National Geographic, 2003.
- The Story of Orion by Thomas Troupe. Picture Window Books, 2013.

Other Activities

- Read a story that reinforces the movement of the sun and moon in a day.
- Make observations about the placement of the sun at the start of school and at the end of school.

Post-Trip Activities at School

- Have students make sticker diagrams of the constellations they learned about. Recall elements from the stories in a discussion.

Extension Activities

- As a class, design and make a sun garden. The garden may contain rocks or other objects that reflect or react to sunlight, such as sundials, solar powered lights or chimes that require sunlight for movement.
- Have students draw a friend's shadow in sidewalk chalk on the ground at two different times of day and discuss how the shadow changes with the change of position of the sun.