



REASONS FOR THE SEASONS

Grades 5-7 | 60 Minutes

Program Overview

Description

Under the planetarium dome, students will explore the relationship between the positions of the Earth and the Sun and their effect on Earth's seasons. Using computer models and live demonstrations, students will gain a better understanding of Earth's seasons and why they happen.

Adult chaperones recommended: 2

Content Standards

Subject	Gr	Ohio Department of Education Standards
Earth/Space	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sun is one of many stars that exist in the universe.• Most of the cycles and patterns of motion between the Earth and sun are predictable.

Vocabulary

axis
climate
latitude
orbit
revolution
rotation
season

Books we recommend

Secrets of the Seasons: Orbiting the Sun in Our Backyard by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld. Random House, 2014.

Post-Trip Activities

- Use fractions lessons related to the seasons to calculate the amount of direct sunlight that different parts of the Earth receive during different seasons.

Other Resources

NASA Space Place, Seasons:

<https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/seasons/en/#:~:text=Earth%27s%20tilted%20axis%20causes%20the,winter%20in%20the%20Northern%20Hemisphere.>

NASA eClips seasons: https://nasaclips.arc.nasa.gov/spotlite/seasons/seasons_nasa-spotlite--what-causes-seasons-july-2017