



EXPLORING THE SOLAR SYSTEM

4th and 6th Grades

DESCRIPTION

All students will participate in a kinetic activity in the lab that will examine the orbital paths of the inner planets. Students will learn the order of the planets, explain why planets and constellations appear to move backwards at times, and identify the phases of the moon as well as model its synchronous rotation.

FIELD TRIP

Program will run for 2 hours.

30 MINUTES – PLANETARIUM SHOW

- To Worlds Beyond

30 MINUTES - LAB

- Hands-on Moon phase activity using models
- Demonstrate the movement of the Earth and Moon around the Sun
- Discuss order of planets and size of the solar system

30 MINUTES

- Visit the Museum Store

30 MINUTES - GALLERY TIME

- Cover space travel to date and beyond
- Space race with Russia launching Sputnik
- Human space travel from Mercury program to upcoming Artemis program

TAKE HOME ITEMS

- Moon phase bookmark

VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP

Program will run for approximately 1 hour.

30 MINUTES – VIRTUAL CLASS

- Discuss planets of the solar system, the Moon and its orbit around Earth, and Moon phases
- Make a pocket solar system in your classroom

30 MINUTES - Q & A SESSION

- Demonstration of the movement of the Earth and Moon around the Sun and how that influences the phases of the moon

CURRICULUM PACKET

- Vocabulary Crossword & Word Search
- Make a Kinetic Solar System Instructions
- Moon Book Marks
- Pictures of Sun, Inner Planets, and Four Constellations
- Pre-recorded Video

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GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE:
S4E1d and S4E2abc, S6E1c and S6E2abc