



Digital Planetarium at the NHM Vienna

In our digital planetarium school groups can enjoy live shows and full-dome films (on topics of their choice) or take part in public screenings.

All films can be shown in a range of languages. Please ask for details when booking.

Live Shows

Journey Through the Night for Kids

Duration of the live show: approx. 40 minutes

Suitable for school year 3 and above

Journey Through the Night for Kids is our latest live show in which NHM astronomers explain the night sky above Vienna in an easily understandable, child-friendly way.

The museum's space experts invite young visitors to join them on a fascinating virtual journey to the Moon and Mars.

Astronomers explain the topics of space travel, astronomy, and space research in an easily understandable and child-friendly way as an exciting virtual adventure. In the most modern planetarium in Austria we will experience a real rocket launch at close quarters, land on the Moon, accompany a space probe on its journey through space, and push ourselves to the limits of our imagination. We will learn what stars are made up of, if we could breathe the air on other planets, how long it takes to travel to Mars, and much, much more.

Live to the Stars: Journey through the Night

Duration of the live show: approx. 40 minutes

Suitable for school year 7 and above

Astronomers present the night sky above Vienna, show the current position of the stars, and take visitors on a journey through the universe to a selection of astronomical objects such as the Orion Nebula or the neighboring galaxy of our own Milky Way, the Andromeda Nebula, 2.5 million light years away.

Full-dome Films

Life of Trees

Duration of film: 33 minutes

Age: 4 years and older

Join Dolores the ladybird and Mike the glow-worm on their search to discover the secret of trees. Participants will find out why these are essential for life on Earth and how chemical processes such as photosynthesis and the greenhouse effect work.

Dinosaurs at Dusk

Duration of film: 45 minutes

Suitable for children in school year 1 and above

Join the girl Lucy in her quest to find the oldest flying creatures on Earth. This journey will take you all the way back to the Mesozoic, when dinosaurs ruled the planet. Lucy meets pterosaurs and feathered dinosaurs, the earliest ancestors of modern birds, and experiences at first hand how the tectonic plates formed today's continents. Asteroid strikes and the "last day" of the dinosaurs also feature in this exciting and informative adventure.

The Sun, our living Star

Duration of film: 25 minutes

Suitable for school year 5 and above

This show tells the story of our closest star, the sun, in breathtaking images. It also addresses the fundamental importance of the sun for the Earth – as an energy source for our planet, as an energy supplier that drives wind and weather, and as a source of light that makes the existence of life on Planet Earth possible in the first place. Previously unseen images of the turbulent solar surface in fulldome projection convey in breathtaking detail the tremendous power and dynamics of our closest star. The sun, which looks like a luminous disk when seen from Earth, is in fact an incredibly hot celestial body that is constantly changing. It burns 600 million metric tons of hydrogen per second and has a fundamental influence on every aspect of life on Earth: the day/night rhythm, the changing seasons, the production of oxygen by green plants through photosynthesis (and thus on the food chain in all ecosystems), as well as on culture and religion in human societies.

This film, which is screened at the NHM Digital Planetarium in Vienna, is a co-production between ESO and the Greek director Theofanis Matsopoulos.

From Earth to the Universe

Duration of film: 32 minutes

Suitable for school year 5 and above

This exciting and informative look at the history of space research covers everything from the earliest observations of the night sky right through to the development of state-of-the-art telescopes. Participants visit the planets of our solar system, our nearest stars, stellar clusters, and galaxies as they travel to the edge of the known universe.

Journey to a Billion Suns

Duration of film: 32 minutes

Suitable for school year 5 and above

This planetarium show was produced in cooperation with the European Space Agency (ESA) and various planetariums to mark the launch of the Gaia space mission. New calculations on the size of the Milky Way are going to reveal secrets about the past and future of the galaxy that we call home.

Supervolcanoes

Duration of film: 24 minutes

Suitable for school year 7 and above

A film about gigantic volcano eruptions in our solar system and the key question: Could a supervolcano erupt today? The biggest volcano eruption in the last 25 million years took place on the island of Sumatra. This eruption of a volcano known today as “Toba” happened 74,000 years ago and caused a huge regional plateau to collapse. 250 million years ago there was even a volcanic eruption in Siberia that lasted one million years! This film not only looks at giant volcano eruptions on Earth and their effects but also at volcanoes in our solar system, for example on the Neptune moon Triton and the Jupiter moon Io.

Dynamic Earth

Duration of film: 24 minutes

Suitable for school year 7 and above

Satellite images and modern computer simulations show the connections between the complex systems which dictate our climate: the biosphere, and within it especially the oceans and the atmosphere. A journey over oceans, through the eye of a storm, and into the heart of bubbling volcanoes.

Origins of Life

Duration of film: 23 minutes

Suitable for school year 7 and above

A film about the origins of life and possible life beyond Earth. The latest scientific insights into: the Big Bang and the chemical composition of the universe, the creation of the stars and planetary systems, the extinction of the dinosaurs; and the search for life away from Planet Earth.

Realm of Light

Duration of film: 25 minutes

Suitable for school year 7 and above

A film about the genesis of life, the history of the universe and our world – from the Big Bang to the present day – told in breathtaking pictures.

Life: A Cosmic Story

Duration of film: 26 minutes

Suitable for school year 7 and above

A spectacular journey into space – from the Earth to the Moon, Mars, and the Milky Way. A film about the potential of life beyond Earth, about biodiversity, sustainability, and the uniqueness of our planet as the only place where we know that life has flourished.

Fragile Planet

Duration of film: 26 minutes

Suitable for school year 7 and above

Fragile Planet gives audiences an astronaut's view of Earth, highlighting Earth's unique regions. The journey then continues to the Moon, Mars, and beyond the Milky Way to search for habitats that might host extraterrestrial life. The show's theme — that Earth is the only known haven for life, and thus is important to protect — echoes the themes of biodiversity and sustainability.

The visual foundation of the show lies in scientific visualization. From the high-resolution satellite imagery of Earth, the positions of galaxies more than 50 million light years distant, the three-dimensional terrain of Valles Marineris on Mars to the locations of extrasolar planetary systems in interstellar space, everything audiences will see in Fragile Planet has a basis in astronomers' best understanding of the Universe.

Violent Universe

Duration of film: 25 minutes

Suitable for school year 7 and above

This film showcases the enormous forces and incredible energy that hold the universe together and make stars burst. Spectacular images show comets, asteroids, and meteorites speeding through space and stars exploding. The film also explains what could happen if an asteroid strikes Earth.

Phantom of the Universe

Duration of film: 25 minutes

Suitable for school year 9 and above

Phantom of the Universe shows the exciting exploration of dark matter, from the Big Bang to its anticipated discovery. It reveals the first hints of its existence in the 1930s through the eyes of Fritz Zwicky, the scientist who coined the term „dark matter.“ It plunges deep underground to see the most sensitive dark matter detector on Earth, housed in a former gold mine in South Dakota. From there, it journeys to the Large Hadron Collider, the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator at CERN (Switzerland), where scientists from all over the world are collaborating to track down the constituents of dark matter, a type of matter that has not been directly observed yet but the existence of which is not called into question by cosmologists nowadays.

NHM Archeology & Planetarium

Duration: 80 minutes

Suitable for school year 5 and above

A multimedia journey through prehistory and early history in Austria – from the Stone Age to the Early Middle Ages. After a guided tour through the prehistory galleries, participants are shown a 15-minute live show in the planetarium about “The Stone Age Sky”.

Group size max. 61 (including accompanying adults) for Planetarium events
max. 29 participants for "NHM Archeology and Planetarium"

Start times (topic of film can be chosen by group)

	Monday	9:15, 11:15, 12:15, 15:00, 16:00, 17:00
	Wednesday	9:15, 10:15, 11:15, 12:15
	Thursday	9:15, 10:15, 12:15, 17:00
	Friday	9:15, 10:15, 11:15, 17:00
Price	Admission	Free up to the age of 19; 2 accompanying adults free for every 17 pupils
	Film price	€ 3,00 per pupil € 45,00 flat rate for groups of fewer than 15 pupils free admission for two accompanying adults per 17 pupils NHM Archeology & Planetarium: € 6.00 per pupil; minimum of € 90.00

Screenings open to the general public

	Monday	10:15 Journey Through the Night for Kids 14:00 Dinosaurs at Dusk
	Wednesday	14:00 Dinosaurs at Dusk 15:00 From Earth to the Universe 16:00 Violent Universe 17:00 Live to the Stars: Journey through the Night
	Thursday	11:15 Dinosaurs at Dusk 14:00 Fragile Planet 15:00 Life: A Cosmic Story 16:00 Dinosaurs at Dusk
	Friday	12:15 Dynamic Earth 14:00 Fragile Planet 15:00 Phantom of the Universe 16:00 Dinosaurs at Dusk
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Price	Admission	Free up to the age of 19; 2 accompanying adults free for every 17 pupils
	Film price	€ 3,00 per pupil

Booking

01/52177/335 (Monday 14:00 until 17:00, Wednesday to Friday 9:00 to 12:00)

https://www.nhm-wien.ac.at/en/exhibitions/school__kindergarten/appointment_request

Places for the screenings open to the general public can be booked in advance (please pick up your tickets from the ticket desk 15 minutes before the screening starts). Tickets can also be purchased online. (<https://www.nhm-wien.ac.at/ticketing>).