



FSC PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1204 - The Alien Who Stole Christmas

Grade Level: 2nd – 4th
Location: Fernbank Planetarium
Capacity: 350

Instructors: Mark Lancaster, Rachael Lambert
Type: Planetarium Lesson
Length: 50 minutes

Program Description

Enjoy a magical winter evening under the stars without leaving your seat in the planetarium! Join Santa and Mr. Freep, an alien from another world, on a cosmic adventure through the farthest regions of our Solar System. Will Santa make it back in time to deliver his toys? Join us this holiday season to find out!

Georgia Performance Standards Addressed

S2E2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to develop an understanding of the patterns of the sun and the moon and the sun's effect on Earth.

S3P1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the ways heat energy is transferred and measured.

S4E1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to compare and contrast the physical attributes of stars and planets.

Vocabulary

Sky, Earth, Sun, Moon, Stars, Constellation, Planet, Asteroid Belt

Learning Targets	Success Criteria
Students will be able to differentiate Terrestrial and Gaseous Planets	Students can accurately describe features of the Winter Sky
Students will understand that different star patterns are visible during different seasons.	Students can clearly describe the order of the planets from the Sun.
Students will understand that each planet has very differing characteristics, with only Earth able to sustain Humans.	Students clearly understand how each planet is very different from one another.

Science Cross Cutting Concepts

		
Students will explore the patterns that stars make in the sky (Constellations)	Students will examine the scale and proportion of Solar System	Students will understand and be able to model the Solar System's order.

Science and Engineering Practices

		
Students ask questions about the characteristics of constellations in the Winter sky.	Students construct explanations about how the Solar System formed.	Students engage in discussions about potential life outside of the Earth.

Pre-Visit Activities

Tour the Solar System: <https://nineplanets.org/tour/>

Learn about the winter constellations: <https://belowthestars.com/winter-constellations/>

Post-Visit Activity

Compare the sizes of the planets and sun:

<https://www.skymarvels.com/infopages/vids/PlanetSizeComparison.htm>

FSC Program Evaluation Survey Link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/CSCkZYqxjY>

