FSC PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
1412 - Earth's Wild Ride

Grade Level: 3rd and 4th

Location: Fernbank Science Center

Capacity: 350

Instructor: Lancaster

Type: Planetarium Lesson

Length: 45 minutes

Program Description

Imagine Earth as a distant place you once called home but could never visit again. What would you remember most about the planet, and how would you describe it to your grandchildren? Earth's Wild Ride is like many tales shared by grandparents over the centuries, except "the old country" is really a planet, always visible from the moon base, but totally unlike the granddaughter's world. While learning about eclipses, the ice age, Earth's water cycle and differences between the Earth and Moon, the audience is taken on a rollercoaster-like ride through canyons of raging rivers and hot flowing lava.

Georgia Performance Standards

- S4E3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to demonstrate the water cycle. b. Develop models to illustrate multiple pathways water may take during the water cycle (evaporation, condensation, and precipitation).
- S4E1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to compare and contrast the physical attributes of stars and planets.
- S5E1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to identify surface features on the Earth caused by constructive and/or destructive processes.

Key Vocabulary

Volcano	Eclipse	Earth	Moon
Orbit	Ice Age	Water cycle	Sun
Shadow	Asteroid		

Pre-Visit Activities

Coming of the Ice! Activity - See Website Below:

http://www.spaceupdate.com/activities/EU03_coming_of_the_ice.pdf

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Post-Visit Activity
During the lesson, students heard several Native American stories about the sky. Have students research sky stories from other cultures and share them with the class.

Resources
Pages 6 and 7 of NASA's Human Exploration of the Moon guide at https://www.nasa.gov/pdf/217784main_FTM_Companion_Guide.pdf asks questions for students to explore and provides the article "The Moon is a school for exploration."