

Mobile Planetarium Visit Requirements

Dome arrival, unloading and loading

The van arrives 90 minutes prior to the first presentation of the day. Please provide one person to help unload and wheel the dome and equipment cases from the van to the presentation site — the cases are heavy. Also plan to provide assistance to reload the van with equipment 45 minutes after the last show ends.

Dome dimensions and room requirements

The dome inflates to 12 feet high and 20 feet in diameter. The presentation site **MUST** be indoors, **MUST** have at least 13 feet of ceiling clearance (no beams or other obstructions) and **MUST** have a clear circle of floor space at least 23 feet in diameter. Morehead staff recommends a room that is at least 30 feet long and 30 feet wide.

Capacity and accessibility

The planetarium is wheelchair accessible. The dome can accommodate 30 children in grades K-3, 24 in grades 4-7, or 20 in grades 8-12 per presentation. A classroom teacher (or other adult) **MUST** accompany the children inside the dome for the duration of the presentation.

Flooring

The dome has no floor. The Mobile Planetarium will provide stadium cushions so students can comfortably sit on the floor. Please make sure the floor is clean and free of debris.

Setup location

The planetarium must be set up in a quiet location so the presenter can be heard. If the dome is sharing space in a gym with P.E. classes, please request that these classes engage in outdoor activities for the day of the visit.

Electrical requirements

Presentations are interactive, and students are welcome to ask questions in respectful manner.

Media opportunities

We invite you to contact the local media that serves your hometown and invite them to witness the Mobile Planetarium program. We send news releases about all school visits to local media on your behalf as a backup to any contacts you make with reporters directly.

Confirmation of your visit

To successfully coordinate your visit, please read all emails from Morehead staff and respond promptly. Feel free to contact us by email or phone at planets@unc.edu or 919-962-8438