SPRING 2021 STUDENT PROGRAMS FOR HOMESCHOOLS
*UPDATED: Program Descriptions: February 2021 – June 2021

YOUNGER STUDENTS (Grades K-3)

FEBRUARY
Animals with Backbones: We will classify fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals according to their physical characteristics. Students will observe live animals including salamanders, frogs, turtles, snakes and alligator and an owl.

Push Me, Pull Me: Students will experiment with force and motion using toys including marble towers, gears, ramps, and dominos. They will collect, analyze, and interpret data from observations and measurements as they investigate motion, gravity, and friction.

MARCH
Exploring Our Senses: Students will explore and exercise their five senses through hands-on, eyes-on, ears-on, and noses-on activities. They will describe and identify mystery sights, sounds, textures, shapes, smells, and tastes.

The Weather (planetarium): Join us on a journey to connect children to the weather around them and encourage them to use their senses to observe weather. Learn basic cloud types, their association with specific weather conditions, and the concept of weather forecasting. The Weather introduces basic terms used to describe weather conditions, and the instruments used to study and measure weather. Children follow a drop of water through the entire water cycle.

APRIL
Plantastic: Students compare plants and people, identify the functions of plant parts, and assemble plant life cycle puzzles. They enjoy time-lapse videos of plants in motion and investigate methods of seed dispersal. As time permits, plants from different environments are compared and contrasted.

Circuit City: Using batteries, bulbs, wires, motors, and propellers, students will construct simple, series, and parallel circuits. They will also have a hair-raising experience with static electricity.

MAY
Grossology: We will investigate what makes our body gross, yucky but oh so cool! From the senses we use to explore our world to Smelly Odors, slimy mucus, and stinky waste, this program will explore the insides and outsides of our amazing bodies!

Animals are Amazing: Students will compare and contrast attributes, adaptations, and habitat necessities of five groups of vertebrates: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Students will experience animal adaptations first-hand through station activities and learn what it means to survive!

JUNE
Magic Treehouse Space Mission (planetarium): Based on the beloved Magic Tree House book series, Magic Tree House Space Mission launches the intrepid Jack and Annie on a fun-filled journey to discover the secrets of the Sun, Moon, planets, space travel and more. Aligned with early elementary information skills-learning objectives, this beautifully produced show is a winner with Magic Tree House fans of all ages and school audiences alike.

Planet Earth Rocks: Students will explore excellent specimens of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. They will compare physical properties relating properties to formation processes as well as observe and classify fossils, sediments and products of earth resources.

OLDER STUDENTS (Grades 4-8)

FEBRUARY
Two Small Pieces of Glass (planetarium): Galileo’s telescopic observations began a revolution, transforming our views of the cosmos and our place within. It is a revolution, which, four hundred years later, continues. Today you can attend star parties where amateur astronomers set up their telescopes for public viewing. Views through such telescopes would have amazed Galileo. Two Small Pieces of Glass puts you in the middle of a modern star party. Discover the wonders that even a small amateur telescope can reveal and learn about the scientists that made such views possible.

Do You See, What I See?: Students will explore ways that light can be reflected, refracted, diffracted, and absorbed by various objects. They will also investigate how the eye converts light into images.

MARCH
Variable Ventures: Students identify different types of mixtures and work in collaborative teams to make various solutions. They manipulate variables to change the rate of dissolving.

CSI: Solutions: Scotty’s dog is missing! Students use chromatography and sifting to separate mixtures; use indicators to make solutions and identify a mystery substance; and examine hair and fiber samples with microscopes in a simulated crime scene investigation.

APRIL
Meet the Elements: “Meet the elements” in a fun music video and then work together to classify materials as elements, compounds, and mixtures. They will build atomic models and discover why compounds are either ionic or covalent.

Let’s Work Together: Life is a competition when you are a part of the animal kingdom. In this lesson, learn how animals work together or against one another to survive. We will explore the effects of habitat limitations and how animals adapt each and every day. Let the best animal win the game of life!

MAY
Seven Wonders (planetarium): Turn back the pages of time and witness the ancient wonders of the world, as they appeared thousands of years ago. Explore the Great Pyramid, stand in the shadow of the towering Colossus and experience the rest of the world’s Seven Wonders. We will investigate the theories of how these wonders were created, and get a glimpse of some of the universe’s greatest wonders.

Hiker: This interactive computer program explores graphing concepts by tracking students’ movements. Students enjoy the challenge and fun of moving to create specific line graphs.

JUNE
Energy Transformations: Students will build and power circuits using different energy sources such as chemical, mechanical and thermal. Explore the benefits of solar panels and learn how clean energy is the way of the future! Program sponsored by: SCANA

Lunar Design Challenge: Students will design, build, and test a “lunar buggy” to transport astronauts and cargo on the Moon. The will collect and analyze data, take measurements, and refine their models using the Engineering Design Process.