

There are three different approaches to a visit from the Star Tour to your school(s). They are listed below with information on how each works:

1. Invite Astrophysicist Kevin Manning to your school to conduct a single program to inspire, motivate and foster interest and literacy in science.

Astronomy for Everyone: Size & Scale of the Universe is an exciting program for all ages about the universe from the very small to the very large that lasts approximately 1 ½ hours (time can be adjusted according to your needs). I use an MS PowerPoint slide presentation format with a laptop PC, so a digital projector and screen are needed. I also incorporate some video footage. Following this indoor formal presentation, we all go outdoors to view celestial objects in the night sky, such as the rings of Saturn, craters on the Moon, etc., weather permitting. If it is a daytime program then a solar filter (same one NASA uses) is used to view sunspots on the sun.

Fee: \$450 with block scheduling discounts available

2. Invite Astrophysicist Kevin Manning to your school for an entire day (and evening) to conduct various workshops, break-out sessions with hands-on activities, and programs suited for different levels of interest and ability. This could be expanded to more than one school or even an entire district. Some possible samples are listed below:

Survival on the Moon: After crash-landing on the Moon, students are asked to prioritize a list of 15 items that survived the crash according to their level of importance to survive the long journey back to the base ship. Then they are placed in groups to discuss and form a consensus for their group giving reasons for their choices. Finally, a list with reasons given by NASA astronauts is revealed.

Messier Object Search: An introduction to Charles Messier as the famous comet hunter and a primer on celestial coordinates of the night sky. Students are given professional level star charts and a list of Messier Objects (galaxies, nebulae and star clusters) to locate using their coordinates. Photos of these objects are shown and discussed as to what they are and how they were formed.

Capture the Colorful Cosmos with NASA's MicroObservatory: Using computers online, students will learn how to access robotic telescopes, take photographs of planets, galaxies, and nebulae and use image processing tools to bring out detail in these photos the same way that professional astronomers do. Inspire your students to take and manipulate their own astronomical photographs and create original displays and exhibits. Have students construct a "Cosmic Quilt" for display at your school.

Choose from a list of several programs seen under the Programs link on my web site at www.lookuptothestars.com.

Fee: \$950 with block scheduling discounts available

3. Invite Astrophysicist Kevin Manning to help your school conduct a fundraiser with absolutely no up-front costs.

Join forces with us to raise the funds necessary for the quality education of your students, whether it be for sports uniforms, field trips or entire computer labs. We provide a fun-filled evening open to families in the community, offering a dynamic astronomy program entitled, "Astronomy for Everyone: Size & Scale of the Universe." The program is highly interactive and educational, including the opportunity (weather permitting) to view the night sky through a powerful hand-crafted telescope. Viewers will have the opportunity to behold the rings of Saturn, the craters on the moon and other celestial objects. It's a really fun way to stimulate interest and literacy in science while raising funds for your special projects. Raffle prizes, such as a new telescope, can also be used in the fundraising effort.

Fee: Funds raised are shared