

Planetarium Shows for General Audiences (April 2022 – March 2023)

The planetarium theme changes on a monthly basis and is selected from among a wide variety of astronomical and cosmological topics, including current astronomical events and how to find stars that night.

Planetarium shows are presented with live commentaries for general audiences by our expert curators.

April: The Big Dipper as a Nocturnal (Apr. 16 – May 11)

This season is the best to appreciate the Big Dipper. Linked to various objects, the impressive arrangement of the stars has inspired viewers to create a wide variety of tales. In addition, the Big Dipper, which rotates around the Polestar, serves as a pointer showing time and season.

May: Stars in the Southern Hemisphere (May 12 – Jun. 16)

At the planetarium, starry skies around the world can be projected on the dome. Using this function, this show provides an opportunity for you to appreciate a starry sky in the Southern Hemisphere, which you cannot see here from Nagoya. Why not enjoy an overseas starry sky trip?

June: How Did Gold, Silver, and Platinum Come into Being? (Jun. 18 – Jul. 20)

A wide variety of elements around you have been created by stars over a long period of time. The recent researches have revealed that heavy elements, such as gold, silver, and platinum, have resulted from the merging of neutron stars.

July – August: Welcome to Space Travel (Jul. 21 – Aug. 31)

Space travel by a private company has now become a reality. In addition, an open call for Japanese astronauts has been launched in anticipation of not only circling the Earth but also operating on the moon. A dreamy idea comes to fruition. Let's look at the present state of space travel.

September: Observatories in Space

(Sep. 1 – Sep. 30)

Unaffected by Earth's atmosphere, space is an ideal place for astronomical observation. However, it is very challenging to develop and operate telescopes in space. This show introduces a wide variety of astronomical observatories, from the renowned Hubble Space Telescope to recent examples.

October: Lure of a Total Lunar Eclipse (Oct. 1 – Nov. 9)

When a full moon passes behind the Earth, a total lunar eclipse occurs, making the moon take on a dark red color. In the total lunar eclipse this year, you will be able to view the waning moon from beginning to end before the midnight. Such an ideal situation has not occurred in a long time. Learn about the key points in enjoying a total lunar eclipse in advance so that you can better appreciate viewing the event on the night.

Science Museum's 60th Anniversary Program

November: Astronomy Milestones over 60 Years (Nov. 10 – Dec. 7)

Opened in 1962, the Nagoya City Science Museum celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. This period has seen remarkable advancements in astronomy. This show traces the milestones of the science museum and astronomy from the beginning of the universe to the exploration of asteroids.

December – January: Mars Approach? (Dec. 8 – Jan. 31)

Mars and Earth come close to each other every two years and two months, making Mars appear brighter. In this year's approach, Mars looks especially impressive, among many prominent stars in the winter sky. In this show, you will learn about the mechanism of the approach and how to enjoy this astronomical event.

February: Forefront of Radio Astronomy (Feb. 1 – Feb. 28)

Observed in radio range, universe reveals aspects that cannot be unraveled by visible light. A wide variety of ingenuity has been applied to the use of radio telescopes for observation, such as developing a large single dish and arranging many antennas.

March: The Twins (From March 1)

Since ancient times, people have looked up at the starry sky, inspiring them to create a wide variety of tales. Constellations and stories about the stars are not exclusive to Greek mythology. This show tells you about other Twins' nicknames and interesting tales.

Family Hour

Family Hour shows are fun and relaxing for the whole family to watch, including preschoolers and younger elementary school children. On top of showing you the night sky on that day, these shows take you on space voyages and other adventures. They are also recommended for visitors experiencing a planetarium for the first time.

Reservations are available for clubs and other groups of children, depending on the day and time. Please contact the planetarium for details.

Apr. 1 – May 22: An Adventure through the Solar System

May 28 – Oct. 16: Step into the World of Stars

Oct. 22 – Jan. 29: Trip to Mars

From Feb. 4: An Adventure through the Solar System