

Merrillville Community Planetarium
Public Planetarium Programs
2011-2012 School Year



All programs start at 7:30 p.m. The planetarium opens for seating 30 minutes before show time. No one is admitted after the program starts. Programs last from 60 to 90 minutes. Admission to public programs is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. Seating is limited and should be reserved by calling (219) 650-5486 or visiting www.mcpstars.org. Tickets are available at the door. Large groups may arrange for a private show by calling the planetarium at (219) 650-5486.

The planetarium's Gift Shop is open before and after each show. Weather permitting, an outdoor observing session is offered following each program. The planetarium is located in Clifford Pierce Middle School at 199 East 70th Avenue in Merrillville, Indiana. Please park and enter on the west side of the building.

The Planets

Friday, October 7, 14, 28
Saturday, October 15, 29

From the formation of our solar system to the existence of planets around other stars, this program explores our solar system and reveals what we currently know about it. Starting at Mercury and continuing through the outer solar system, we'll learn about the planets, moons, asteroids, and comets that orbit our sun.

The Winter Sky

Friday, January 13, 20, 27
Saturday, January 21, 28

The winter stars and constellations are among the brightest and most interesting of all the skies. Orion, Taurus, Canis Major, and Gemini are all visible during the early evening. Other objects of interest include the Andromeda Galaxy, the Orion Nebula, the Pleiades star cluster, and the planets Venus and Jupiter.

The Voyager Encounters

Friday, April 13, 20, 27
Saturday, April 21, 28

It was thirty-five years ago that *Voyager 1* and *2* were launched on a mission to explore the outer solar system. Most of what we know about the large outer planets comes from these two space probes. Find out what the *Voyagers* learned about the planets, rings, and moons of the outer solar system.

Larry Cat in Space

Friday, July 13, 20, 27
Saturday, July 21, 28

Larry Cat is a curious feline whose human friend Diane is sent to a base on the moon to study lunar geology. Larry is miserable until he gets an idea: follow Diane to the moon! Larry stows away aboard one of Diane's trunks and his adventure begins. "Larry Cat in Space" is a family program for children of all ages.