



AdventureDome Portable Planetarium

In terms of sheer numbers reached, PARI's AdventureDome has become one of the most popular astronomy programs in the Carolinas. To date, more than 75,000 people have viewed its presentations. AdventureDome is a 22-ft portable planetarium, obtained by PARI in late 2000.

AdventureDome programs are targeted to grades K-12 and are designed to support the North and South Carolina public school curricula at the appropriate grade levels. AdventureDome is typically set up in a school gym or multi-purpose room. Other venues, such as a community facilities or churches can be used to accommodate other groups, such as homeschoolers, scouts and clubs. PARI also uses AdventureDome for presentations on the PARI campus. Current programs include:

- *Shapes and Patterns in the Sky*. Suggested for kindergarten or first grade. Concepts include constellations, circles, squares, rectangles, ovals and trapezoids.
- *The Moon and Stars: Now You See Them; Now You Don't*. Suggested for kindergarten, first, third, fourth or sixth grade. Concepts include the Moon and its motion across the sky as well as constellations and how they appear to move as the Earth rotates.
- *The Reason for The Seasons*. Suggested for second, fourth or fifth grade. Concepts include constellations, seasons, length of the day, rising and setting points of the Sun, phases of the Moon and locations of the planets.
- *Stars of Lewis and Clark*. Suggested for fourth or fifth grade. Concepts include constellations, the Moon, angular measurement, exploration of the West, time and time zones, latitude and longitude.
- *Realm of the Planets*. Suggested for third or eighth grade Astronomy: Earth and Space Systems. Concepts include size and scale of the solar system, the ecliptic, locating planets and the Sun's place in the Milky Way.
- *Stars of My People*. Suggested for first, second, fourth or sixth grade. Concepts include constellations and mythology from Asia, Africa, Central America and Native Americans, demonstrating how people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds might view the night sky.
- *Motions in the Sky*. Suggested for Physical Science, Physics or Earth/Environmental Sciences. Concepts include constellations, motions of the planets, Sun and Moon, the Milky Way, and the Doppler Shift.
- *The Radio Sky*. Suggested for Physical Science classes. Provides a visual description of the information gathered through radio astronomy.
- *The Sky Tonight*. Suggested for any level, including special groups such as scouts, etc. This program is an in-depth look at the current night sky.

*PARI is a public not-for-profit organization. See www.pari.edu for more information.
August 10, 2015*