



Life in the Universe 2D/3D

KS2; duration: 30 minutes; presenter-led

Join us in the search for extra-terrestrial life and discover what aliens might look like. Fly to distant worlds - including a planet created by you!

Key Words:

Aliens. Space. Earth. Mars. Planets. Exoplanets. Stars. Solar System. Galaxies. Life. Exploration. James Webb Space Telescope.

Content:

Land on Mars and see how robotic probes are searching for signs of simple life in the planet's distant past. Vote to choose where in the Solar System we visit next - a frozen world hiding a secret under the ice or a world with strange chemicals in weird places. Discover how powerful telescopes in space find exoplanets – alien worlds going around distant stars. Investigate what kind of strange alien life might live on these faraway planets. Join your fellow audience members in using our Planetarium technology to create your very own exoplanet. Volunteer to name your new creation. Vote to choose a real exoplanet to explore.

This is an interactive show:

At certain points during the show, the audience will be asked to clap for their preferred outcome. The audience will be asked for a volunteer to name a fictional planet that has been created during the show.

Learning objectives. Students will:

Learn how robotic space probes search the worlds of our Solar System for signs of simple, microbial life that could exist today or in the distant past.
Consider the ethical implications of making first contact with alien life.
Learn how advanced space telescopes - including the James Webb Space Telescope - search for distant exoplanets.
Consider how a life form might adapt to survive in a particular environment.
Learn how scientists can piece together information about distant exoplanets to build a picture of what conditions on these worlds might be like.
Learn what the conditions are likely to be like on one of two real exoplanets and consider whether they could be suitable homes for life.

Curriculum Links:

Year 3 & 4: Working scientifically

Making systematic and careful observations.
Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.

Year 4: Living things and their habitats

Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

Year 5: Earth and space

Describe the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the Solar System.
Describe the Sun, Earth, and moon as approximately spherical bodies.
Learn that the sun is a star at the centre of our solar system and that it has 8 planets: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.

we the curious **Planetarium**



Potential Hazards and accessibility

3D shows are strictly for ages 6 and over. Life in the Universe 2D is available for Year One groups.

Related activities

Exhibits Ground floor exhibits under the theme “Is there another me in the Universe?”

Workshop Earth, Sun and Moon, KS2 Destination Space