

Learning an Activity in Space Odyssey

Welcome to the team! Your job in Space Odyssey is to have fun teaching space science to our guests using various Museum-approved activities. Please follow the steps below to get trained on the activity of your choice. If you have questions, ask a fellow volunteer or your staff supervisor.

1. Pick an activity that interests you such as the Moon Phases or Orbits Table.

- Start with just one activity to keep things as simple as possible.
- Tell your Guide Captain what you're interested in learning. They'll connect you with a fellow team member who already knows the activity and can train you on it.
- If there isn't anyone on your team who knows the activity, please contact your staff supervisor.
- If you don't have a Guide Captain on your shift, ask a fellow team member, Space Odyssey floor staff personnel, or your staff supervisor about getting trained on the activity.
- If you've chosen to learn a show, you will have to be trained and approved by Space Odyssey staff. Please contact your staff supervisor, or one of the Space Odyssey floor staff or educators to learn more. The following shows can be performed by volunteers:
 - Storytelling
 - Vacuum Chamber
 - Earthsmart
 - Astronaut Assistant
 - See the Seas (on Science On a Sphere)
 - A Tale of Three Planets (on Science On a Sphere)

2. Go to the [MGG Portal](#) to get training information about the activity.

- Go to the Exhibits/Programs page on the Portal.
- Read the training manual for the activity.
- Be familiar with the various resources on that activity's page.
- Strive to be scientifically accurate, but don't worry about becoming an expert.
- Please questions about any of the training materials.

3. Train with someone who already knows the activity.

- Watch your trainer facilitate (teach) the activity with guests.
- There is no "right" way to present an activity, though it is very helpful to query your guests about their level of knowledge.
- If the activity you've chosen has a script, please follow that closely. If you have questions about the script, ask your staff trainer.

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4. Practice teaching (or performing) the activity to your trainer or another volunteer or staff person.

- Ask for, and expect, constructive feedback from your trainer.
- Ask for support if you need it.

5. Facilitate the activity with guests while your Guide Captain, fellow team mate or staff person observes and get their feedback.

- Strive to be accurate with your information, no need to try to be an expert.
- Keep in mind that there is more than one way to teach these concepts.
- Remember to be honest about what you know and don't know.
- Try having a conversation with guests, if the activity lends itself to it, as that will take a lot of the pressure off of you.
- Feel free to have a laptop or iPad handy and use the MGG Portal or other Museum-approved sources like NASA, JPL to get help answering guests' questions.
- And of course, always ask for help. We're all here to learn, so it's always a good idea to ask for constructive feedback.
- Last but not least, have fun!

6. If you have an idea for your own activity or presentation, contact your staff supervisor before using it in the exhibit. All demonstrations, shows and activities need to be educator and/or curator approved.

7. And finally, please note that these activities can only be performed by Space Odyssey staff:

- Astronaut on the Surface (in the Mars Diorama)
- Galileo and the Learning Tower of Pizza
- Art Station Titan
- Mission: Superchill**
- Weather Central**
- Travelin' the Universe
- Astronomy of the Pyramids**

**Space Odyssey volunteers who have been performing or training on these shows as of May 1, 2016 are exempt.