



The Ever-Changing Sky 3D

KS2 / KS3 / KS4 / Post 16 / Adult Learners; duration: 30 minutes; presenter-led

The sky is as ever-changing as our understanding of it. Follow constellations as they move over time, discover what the sky looks like from another world, and take a peek at our future sky.

Key Words:

Space. Stars. The North Star. Planets. Mars. Aurora Borealis. Satellites. Constellations.

Learning objectives. Students will:

- Learn that the sky changes as the Earth spins on its axis and rotates around the Sun.
- Appreciate that the way humanity thinks about the sky also changes as we learn more about it.
- Learn how to find the constellation Ursa Major and the North Star.
- Learn that from our perspective the stars appear to move around the North Star.
- Learn that different cultures have different stories about the sky.
- Hear the Mi'kmaq story of Muin the Bear.
- Learn how to spot Mars in the night sky.
- Learn that how humans think about Mars has changed over time.
- Be asked to think about a potential future where humans settle on Mars and what this would mean for them.
- Learn what causes the Northern and Southern Lights.
- Learn about the increase in artificial satellites orbiting the Earth and some of the things they are used for.
- Learn that stars are also moving and in a million years' time they will be in a very different position to where they are today.

Content:

The night sky from Bristol
Constellation: Ursa Major the Great Bear/ Muin the Bear
Earth's rotation
The movement of the planets across the sky
Our changing perception of planet Mars
The Northern Lights
Satellites orbiting Earth
The movement of stars over astronomical timescales:
see the sky from Bristol one million years in the future!

Curriculum Links:

Upper KS2 Earth and Space
Describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system.
KS3 Space Physics
Our Sun as a star, other stars in our galaxy, other galaxies.
The seasons and the Earth's tilt, day length at different times of year, in different hemispheres

Potential Hazards and Accessibility

There are no potential hazards associated with this show.

Related activities

Exhibits: Ground floor exhibits under the theme '*Is there another me in the Universe?*'
Workshops: Earth, Sun, & Moon, KS2 Destination Space.