



Year 3/4 Day Tour Activities

Contact: schooltours@perthobservatory.com.au

🔭 Indicates that a telescope is seen or involved

M1. Meteorites and the Moon

The students see the (very large) piece of a meteorite in the Observatory Museum, with a discussion covering the history of the meteorite and the most common origins of meteorites. The students then engage in activities demonstrating the moon phases and why we see them.

M2. Our Solar System

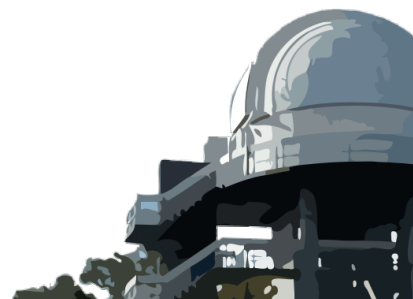
Students will look at the order of the planets in the solar system along a scaled route. This will be followed with an extension activity related to the Solar System.

M3. Sun, Earth and Moon

This activity compares the sizes of the sun, earth and moon and then engages the students in role play to show how the sun, moon and earth interact. An introductory look at the planets is also included with a mnemonic to help remember the order of the planets

M4. Lowell Telescope 1 📡

This was the main research telescope at the observatory. Students will learn about some aspects of astronomical research and how the telescope works. They will also engage in an activity using the Lowell dome as a giant sundial





M5. Astrograph

Students will see how a historical telescope (1896) was still being used in the 1990s for astrophotography. Students are introduced to the long drawn out process of taking photographs in the past which is compared to modern photography.

M6. Here comes the Sun (Do not choose M7 if you select this activity)

Students look at shadows and how they change as the Sun appears to move across the sky. They will then move to our Solar viewing dome, where a telescope trained on the Sun transmits mono real time images via a camera to a computer screen. The students are presented with some limited information about our Sun.

M7. Shadows and Sundials (Do not choose M6 if you select this activity)

Students look at shadows and how they change as the Sun appears to move across the sky. They examine the observatory sundial and then make a sundial of their own which they can use and compare to the time on the Observatory sundial and then take back to school.

M8. Sunshine and Rainbows

Students use objects to produce rainbows on a screen. The reason for rainbows is discussed the use of and their link to astronomy. The students then have a look at objects through coloured filters to see what happens to the rainbows

If you would like the children to use the 'rainbow glasses' there will be an extra \$1.00 charge per student and the rainbow glasses can be taken home

M10. Telescope Tour

This gives the students an opportunity to look at two or three of the Observatory's old and more modern telescopes and learn a little bit about their history and what they were used for. This is a useful addition if you would like the students to leave having seen some telescopes, but your choices do not include any.

Note: If the weather does not allow for outside activities, activities presenting similar concepts will take place inside the main building. However, if at all possible, some activities will take place in the domes so that students can see the telescopes.

