

PLANETARIUMS

*Earth Day 2020
Menu of Engagement*



The first photos taken of Earth from space in 1968 sparked interest and care for our planet that led to the first Earth Day in 1970. Planetariums provide immersive educational opportunities for audiences of all ages to explore the universe and our planet's place in it. Planetariums can host events and displays to educate the public on Earth's history and complex systems. For **Earth Day's 50th anniversary**, use your planetarium to engage your community in learning opportunities to inspire commitment to environmental stewardship!

2020 Program Engagement

Global Teach-In

The first Earth Day was a nationwide [teach-in](#) for communities to learn about and discuss local environmental issues. Host an event on a 2020 campaign or Earth Challenge topic.

- Plastic Pollution
- Biodiversity loss
- Food Security
- Air Quality
- Light pollution
- Water Quality
- Insect Population
- Local climate change impacts
- Show environmental films and provide a panel discussion or Q&A
- Discuss how technology improvement, such as satellites, helps with monitoring climate change

Earth Challenge 2020

Citizen science is an amazing way for global citizens to contribute to valuable scientific research. Planetariums can support [Earth Challenge](#) by serving as a community hub for people to access and learn about Earth Challenge data and local environmental issues.

- Serve as an Earth Challenge site where people can come to with Earth Challenge (citizen science) questions
- Provide materials and resources like tablets to collect, enter, and review data
- Help participants with data analysis
- Organize Earth Challenge data collection days and events

Register your event at EarthDay.org



Artists for the Earth

[Art is a powerful tool](#) to communicate messages, trigger emotions and inspire action! Invite your community to participate in one of these activities.

- Host an eco-art exhibit
- Present an Earth Rise/Earth Day poster contest
- Plan an astronaut/scientist costume night with guest scientists
- Create an interactive art workshop using natural or recycled materials
- Practice yoga under the dome
- Provide a makerspace with tools and resources to create science projects

Food and Climate

Only one thing can make communities coming together to learn even more enticing...[FOOD!](#) Host an event to bring people together to learn about the impacts of our food system and learn about delicious plant-based alternatives.

- Coordinate a catering event and promote sustainably sourced options
- Host a plant-based dinner and invite speakers to teach-in about climate change
- Provide composting bins in dining areas and host a workshop
- Show a film on carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and rising global temperatures

Protect Our Species

[Abundant species diversity](#) is vital for healthy and balanced ecosystems. Use your planetarium to help people connect with their local species and bring awareness to biodiversity loss around the world.

- Create a monthly call for action on endangered/threatened species
- Present shows highlighting the connections between species and their ecosystems
- Host a teach-in on a species migration
- Provide an immersive “time-travel” experience to be surrounded with extinct/threatened species
- Create a Junior Scientist training program

End Plastic Pollution

[Plastic](#) is a huge part of our daily lives, but there are tons of great alternatives to use to help the planet!

- Host an event for the [Great Global Cleanup](#)
- Provide alternatives to single-use plastics
- Present films on the distribution of marine plastics
- Organize research opportunities on learning the effects of plastic
- Invite a local expert to teach-in about the impacts of plastic pollution
- Provide recycling bins and teach how to properly sort recyclables



Register your event at [EarthDay.org](https://www.earthday.org)