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In participation with



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New show at the Montréal Planetarium

An Odyssey with Akvo Water in every state!

Montréal, February 7, 2011 - The Planetarium, a Space for Life, presents *An Odyssey with Akvo*, the all-new show for ages 4 to 7 at the Montréal Planetarium. The whole family is invited to come on a space quest with Akvo, a drop of water! It's a fun-filled show with lots of audience participation, combining the rudiments of astronomy with an introduction to ecology - a delightful experience designed especially for our youngest visitors.

A tour of the solar system

The show is skilfully conducted by a presenter, who interacts with the youngsters and talks to them about the stars, the Sun, the Moon and the planets. He introduces Akvo, a character whose name means "water" in Esperanto. Akvo, the drop of water, is curious to find out whether he could live anywhere else in space. Through songs and games, the children head off to explore our solar system. This interplanetary voyage gives them a chance to think about what kind of conditions there might be on some of the planets and how they affect Akvo, who turns into ice on the Moon and steam on Venus. This teaches them the difference between the various states or forms that water can take (solid, liquid or gas). As they witness the many different forms that Akvo has to take to adapt to the conditions in each new environment, the children realize that the Earth is by far the best place to find water and to support human life.

A fun odyssey

With its dynamic presentation and participatory approach, the *An Odyssey with Akvo* show is designed to make children aware of the value of water, our "blue gold." Using simple, accurate language, the presenter explains some basic astronomy concepts to them – the concepts are easy to understand in this entertaining context. They have lots of fun learning all about our solar system, as they make the sound of a space ship taking off, sing a song as they journey to the Moon, blow on the clouds to chase away the rain and observe the stars projected on the domed roof of the Star Theatre.

The show was designed and produced by Montréal Planetarium astronomer Nathalie Martimbeau, who also helped Les Productions du Zèbre create the original script. Sophie Desrosiers, also from the Planetarium, was artistic producer and artistic director for the show. The friendly character Akvo was created by Sardine Productions.

An Odyssey with Akvo will be shown every Saturday and Sunday at noon and at the same time every day during March Break, from February 28 to March 4.

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