



## **ONE WORLD, ONE SKY: BIG BIRD'S ADVENTURE** **Fun Astronomy Facts For Kids**

Big Bird, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu are taking kids ages 4-6 on an exciting exploration of the sky this fall at the Adler Planetarium. **One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure** will introduce children to the Sun, Moon and stars – providing them with basic knowledge of the night sky.

- People all over the world look up at the stars and see different shapes. These patterns of stars are called constellations. Chinese constellations, like the *White Tiger*, the *Northern Dipper* and the *Azure Dragon*, were named about 6,000 years ago.
- The Sun is the closest star to the Earth. It is the only star, or *xing xing* (pronounced *shing shing*) in Chinese, we can see during the daytime.
- The *Big Dipper* is a group of seven stars that look like a giant soup spoon in the sky. The *Big Dipper* can be seen in China and is called *bei dou qi xing* (pronounced *bay doe chee shing*) in Chinese.
- Hu Hu Zhu's favorite star, the *North Star*, is near the *Big Dipper*. It is called *bei ji xing* (pronounced *bay gee shing*) in Chinese.
- The Moon, or *yue liang* (pronounced *yu-eh lee-ahng*) in Chinese, is very different from Earth. There is no air on the Moon so you will not find trees, flowers or animals, and you can not do many of the things you can do here on Earth, like fly a kite, because there is no wind.
- Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu use their imaginations to travel to the Moon. Once on the Moon, they can see the Earth. They discover that Earth looks blue because most of the Earth is made up of blue oceans.
- At the end of their adventure, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu realize that while they live very far away from each other, they both see the same stars and share the same sky



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