Frequently Asked Questions about Visits and Pricing Estimates

This FAQ provides answers to the most common questions we get about traveling EduTarium school visits. You are under no obligation to engage The Sky Connection for a visit by requesting a quotation and only accepted quotations with a confirmed visit date are invoiced. We look forward to receiving your inquiry and to serving your school with one of our high-quality, educational enrichment programs in the current academic year.

Q1: Why do we ask for the number of students at each grade level?
A1: We conduct programs in two different size domes depending on the number of students. We may also vary the number of sessions per dome to accommodate different class sizes during a single school day visit. Knowing the numbers of students in each grade tells us which dome to bring and helps us provide you the most economical price quote.

Q2: What is the approximate capacity of each size dome?
A2: Our standard dome holds about 20 to 30 students depending on grade level, with fewer numbers corresponding to older students. Our jumbo dome holds 40 to 60 students or about twice that of the standard dome, again depending on grade level. The jumbo dome requires about 1,200 square feet of floor space (approx. 35 x 35 feet) with 14 foot ceiling clearance, and if this is available, it provides not only higher capacity, but also the option of shortening the length of visit day, which frees up the reserved facility and reduces the number of classes walking the halls. The jumbo dome can also help solve tricky scheduling problems around lunch times, recesses, and split class sessions. Some schools, however, prefer the smaller dome regardless of the number of sessions, believing students will be more comfortable in the smaller enclosure. It is an individual preference, which is often influenced by budget.

Q3: How long are the sessions and how does this affect the price?
A2: Each session lasts approximately 45-minutes, including entrance and exit times. We try to allow 10-15 minutes between sessions for our standard dome and 15-20 minutes for our jumbo dome. For pre-K, K, and 1st grades, we also offer 20-minutes sessions. We still base pricing on a full 45-minute session, however, so we can often handle twice as many of these younger student grades in each full session.

Q4: What if the number of students that need to participate exceeds available dome capacity for a single school day visit?
A4: We will quote a multi-day visit and discuss with you any additional charges beyond programming associated with this type of visit.

Continues …
Frequently Asked Questions about Visits and Pricing Estimates

Q5: How does travel distance affect visit pricing?
A5: All programs include a built-in 120-mile or 120-minute roundtrip fee from our home base in Dedham, MA (02026), excluding tolls. There is no deduction for shorter distances or times. We quote additional travel at a pro-rated standard cost plus any tolls.

Q6: Do you require a deposit?
A6: Only for multi-day visits involving overnight stays or multiple day advanced bookings on different days.

Q7: When is full payment due?
A7: Our payment terms request a check on the day of delivery of the program. Some organizations pay in advance. If a visit is cancelled, we promptly refund advanced payments. Deposits are not refundable. We will provide an IRS W-9 form, if required for payment. Checks should be drawn to Michael A. Marks, d/b/a The Sky Connection as requested in the invoice terms section.

Q8: Why do you ask for additional information such as potential visit dates and program content?
A8: To give you a formal quote, we will need contact and school information plus potential visit dates and selection of program content by grade level, if known, regardless if you inquire by telephone or by email. We also often use this information when finalizing a visit and schedule. Requesting a formal quote does not obligate you to engage The Sky Connection for a visit. We do not invoice until you have accepted the quotation and confirmed a visit date with your school.

Thank you for your interest in The Sky Connection and considering our traveling EduTarium for a visit to your school!