Planetarium/Star Show:  
**The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket**

*Description:*  
Embark on a dynamic adventure as two children spend a night touring the solar system alongside their ship's navigator — a talking astronomy book. After getting their mother to agree to let them spend the night in their backyard, a brother and sister team up to build a cardboard rocket so they can travel into space. But mom agrees to let them go “only” as far as the planets.

While running down their flight checklist: air supply (balloons), computer (an old shoebox), and space visors (old football helmets) the astronomy book comes alive. The talking astronomy book cheerfully but cautiously guides them through a fantastical and harrowing journey through the solar system.

Will our dynamic duo get crushed by Jupiter’s gravity or struck by a tumbling asteroid? Or will they return safely to their backyard before their mom discovers them missing? You’ll have to see the show to find out!

*The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket* is one of our most engaging and popular shows with amazing full-dome graphics and video animation. The show features a state-of-the-art 5.1 soundtrack with spectacular effects created at George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch.

The show includes a live *customized* Digistar II tour of the current evening sky and basic astronomy lessons.

*Basic Information:*  
- **Age Level:** Grades 3-5 (1st-8th Grade standards also covered)  
- **Maximum participants per session:** 210  
- **Location:** Planetarium Theater  
- **Running time:** 35 minutes  
- **Includes live customized Star Walk (add 20 minutes)**

*Components:*  
- Focus is on the members of the solar system  
- Planets, asteroids, comets, moons are all explored  
- Space travel is imagined but guided by fact.
The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket

**Sunshine State Standards Addressed:**

**1st Grade**

**Big Idea #17 - Interdependence**
- 1.L.17.1 Recognize that all plants & animals need the basic necessities of air, water, food & space.

**2nd Grade**

**Big Idea #7 – Earth Systems and Patterns**
- 2.E.7.4 Investigate that air is all around us and moving air is wind.

**3rd Grade**

**Big Idea #5 - The Earth in Space and Time**
- 3.E.5.1 Stars have different sizes and brightness; all stars (except the Sun) are so distant that they look like points.
- 3.E.5.2 Explain that our Sun is a star that emits light energy.
- 3.E.5.3 Explain that the Sun looks big & bright because it is the closest star to Earth.
- 3.E.5.4 Demonstrate that gravity is a force that can be overcome.

**Big Idea #11 – Energy Transfer and Transformations**
- 3.P.11.1 Investigate, observe and explain that things that give off light also give off heat.

**5th Grade**

**Big Idea #5 - The Earth in Space and Time**
- 5.E.5.2 Major common characteristics of all planets. Compare & contrast properties of inner & outer planets.
- 5.E.5.3 Identify solar system objects: Sun, planets, moons, asteroids & comets. Identify Earth's place in the Solar System.

**8th Grade**

**Big Idea #5 - The Earth in Space and Time**
- 8.E.5.1 Recognize the huge distances between objects in space; relate these distances to our knowledge of light & space travel.
- 8.E.5.3 Distinguish hierarchical relationships between planets, sun, solar system, galaxy & universe; include distance, size & composition.
- 8.E.5.4 Law of Universal Gravitation; the role of gravity in the formation of stars & planets and gravity's role in their motions.