



The Variety Show – KS3

Please use this information to help you and your students get the most from your visit.



Your show

Show name The Variety Show

Location Attenborough Studio, Darwin Centre, Orange Zone

Start time 10.30 11.45 12.45

Please ensure you are ready and waiting to enter the studio 10 minutes before the show is scheduled to begin. Unfortunately, we are unable to admit latecomers.

Duration 35 minutes

Minimum ratio 1 adult : 10 students

Please ensure you meet the required minimum adult : student ratio.

Maximum group size 60 students, 6 adults

About the show

The show aims to excite your students about the diversity, complexity and beauty of life on Earth. There are engaging demonstrations involving animal specimens, large props, volunteers and lots of audience participation. Students will find out about species adaptations and how and why scientists classify all living organisms. They will discover how humans fit into this classification system and get the chance to do the job of our enquiries service scientists, emphasising the importance of features in the classification and identification of species.

Before your visit

A familiarity with concepts associated with variation, adaptation and classification would be beneficial, but is not essential. The show can be used as an introduction or to consolidate your teaching of these themes.

Please advise the bookings team of any special needs your students may have so we can prepare.

A note about behaviour

One of our experienced science educators will lead the show. We work to make it an inspiring and inclusive experience for all pupils and find we rarely have problems with behaviour. However, teachers have overall responsibility for the conduct of their pupils and we expect you to support us with this where necessary. Pupils benefit significantly when teachers and accompanying adults get involved, so please do join in. We would be particularly grateful for teacher assistance in collecting back 3D glasses that have been distributed.

Health and Safety

We advise students to wash their hands after handling specimens.

Please assist staff when seating students in the Attenborough Studio. Please be aware that handheld devices are located in seat armrests and attached via a cable. To avoid trip hazards, please ensure students return their devices to the housing before leaving the venue.

Learning objectives

- to engender a sense of amazement and wonder for the diversity of life on Earth
- to understand the species have adaptations that are advantageous for survival
- to understand how and why scientists classify species, and how humans fit into this system
- to understand that knowing about species features enables scientists to classify and identify species

National Curriculum links

Key Stage 3 Science

3.3 Organisms, behaviour and health

- d all living things show variation and can be classified