

GeoSphere Guidelines

- **Space:** The GeoSphere is 19.5 feet in height. It is ideal if the presentation space has a ceiling height of 20 feet to accommodate the GeoSphere without obstructions like sprinkler heads, lights, basketball hoops, etc. Please note: sound is amplified inside the GeoSphere. It works best if there are no noisy activities sharing the same space.
- **Class Size:** The GeoSphere can accommodate up to 30 people depending on grade level—up to 30 K-5 participants or up to 25 for Grade 6-12 participants. These figures include teachers and observers.
- **Teacher Participation:** We ask that teachers remain with their class throughout the experience, both outside and inside the GeoSphere.
- **Scheduling:** Every school's schedule is different. For that reason, we rely on the school to provide a schedule of class participation in advance of our arrival.
 - Our programs are generally about 20 – 40 minutes each. The youngest grades (pre-K to 1st) can be as short as 15 minutes each and the older grades can be as long as 50 minutes.
 - Five minutes between each class must be built into the schedule to accommodate passing time.
 - A lunch break of at least ½ hour is required near the middle of the day.
 - A 10-minute break in the morning and again in the afternoon is appreciated, but not required.
- **Special Needs:** To protect the hand-painted globe, we ask that all participants remove their shoes before entering; socks or stockings are advised. We have no problem taking wheelchairs inside the GeoSphere for special needs students.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who is the instructor?

A: We have trained GSC members that run our GeoSphere Programs.

Q: What is the Maximum number of classes taught in a day?



A: No more than 12 classes of at least 20 minutes for second grade and up. Younger students can get by with 15-minute sessions.

Q: What is the maximum number of students we can accommodate?

A: Older classes mean bigger students so with anyone 5th grade and above, we recommend no more than 25 students. With younger students we recommend around 30/class. These numbers include up to three teachers. We request classroom teachers accompany students inside the Geosphere. If this is not possible for a particular teacher, another certified employee of the school is expected to join students in the Geosphere. We have no problem taking wheelchairs inside the GeoSphere for special needs students.

Q: When are classes with the GeoSphere offered?

A: In addition to the school day, we are available for afterschool programs, fairs, or evening hours for interested parents to see what their kids have been up to. Our instructors are able to accommodate about 8 hours a day. We prefer to book them with 2-3 hour blocks preserving time for breaks, including a meal break. After completing a tentative schedule for your day, please send the schedule along to us for edits and guidance. Again, we are totally committed to giving your students the most enriching experience possible.

Q: What kind of material is the GeoSphere made from?

A: The GeoSphere is made of sailboat cloth, a kind of nylon, and it is hand-painted with acrylic paints.

Q: Is there a deposit?

A: Yes. There is a non-refundable deposit of 1/3rd your total booking cost to guarantee the reservation of time for the geosphere.

Q: Do all the grade levels need to have the same program?

A: We prefer they don't. We want your students to have the most meaningful experience possible so we vary length and topics based on your students' age and your curriculum.

To learn more about GSC's GeoSphere curriculum and pricing please contact us at office@geographicsociety.org.