SCOPES FOR SCHOOLS—TEACHER WORKSHOP

Dyer Observatory, Oct. 4, 2005

Agenda

Morning Session

9:00 – 9:30	Introductions Overview of <i>Scopes for Schools</i> program Goals for today's workshop
9:30 – 9:45	Motivation: Some examples of what you can see with your <i>Scopes for Schools</i> telescope
9:45 – 10:30	Scopes for Schools outside of the classroom: How to run a star party, software and other resources
10:30 - 12:00	Basics of Telescopes: How they work, different types, prepare for telescope-building
Lunch Break	
<u>Afternoon Session</u>	
1:00 – 2:00	<i>Scopes for Schools</i> in the classroom: Inquiry-based activities you can use
2:00 - 2:15	Tour of Dyer Observatory
2:15 – 3:15	Brainstorming session: Doing research projects with students, using Dyer facilities, connecting with local amateur astronomers, etc.
3:15 - 3:30	Closing remarks, workshop evaluation

SCOPES FOR SCHOOLS—TEACHER WORKSHOP

Dyer Observatory, October 4, 2005

How to Run a "Star Party"

<u>Planning</u>

Initial Questions:

- What's in the sky this time of year that's worth looking at?
- What's the phase of the Moon on the night of interest?
- Which planets are visible, and at what time do they rise/set?
- Are any of my chosen targets better viewed through binoculars?
- Is the intended site sufficiently dark for the objects we wish to see?

Planning Tools:

- Starry Night software
- Astronomy or Mercury magazine
- Star finder

<u>Checklist</u>

- Telescope(s)!
- Binoculars?
- Flashlight (best with red lens)
- Finding charts for objects of interest
- Background info on targets

SCOPES FOR SCHOOLS—TEACHER WORKSHOP

Dyer Observatory, October 4, 2005

Evaluation

1a) How prepared do you feel, as a result of today's workshop, for building telescopes with your students?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
(Completely unprepared)									(Ver	y prepared)

1b) What questions do you still have about building the telescopes that you wish we had addressed in today's workshop?

2a) Do you feel more comfortable talking to your students about telescopes as a result of today's workshop?

2b) How comfortable do you feel about fielding questions from your students about telescopes?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
(Very uncomfortable)								(Ver	y comfor	table)

3a) How valuable were the demonstrations in helping <u>you</u> understand the types of celestial objects you might look at with your telescope?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
(Not valuable at all)								(Very valuable)			
		<i>,</i>								,	
3b) How likely are you to use these demonstrations?											
,	1	2	2	4			_	8	9	10	
(Not likely at all)							(Ver	y likely)			

3c) Are there any other demonstrations or background astronomy information you wish we had covered today? If so, what?

4a) How prepared do you feel to plan a star party as a result of today's workshop?12345678910(Completely unprepared)(Very prepared)

4b) How valuable was working with the Starry Night software specifically for helping you plan for star parties?

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10

 (Not valuable at all)
 (Very valuable)
 (Very valuable)

4c) Do you plan to use the software after today?

4d) Is there anything else we could have done to better prepare you for star parties?

5) How interested are you in using the classroom activities we discussed today? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Not interested at all) (Very interested)