

**Galilean Nights Event ID:** gn345

**Number of telescopes:** 3

**Number of organisers:** 25

**Number of attendees:** 300

**Event photos:** <http://www.flickr.com/photos/44370547@N08/?saved=1>

**Event Report:**

Excelsoft Technologies Pvt. Ltd., pioneers in the field of educational technology solutions, in association with Excel Public School had organized the Galilean Nights between 22nd and 24th October in Mysore.

The chief attractions of the programme were a 14" computerized observatory class telescope (Celestron CGE Pro 1400 XLT), an 8" Meade telescope and a personal planetarium (SkyScout). Over 120 students from different schools in the city and about 180 parents took part in the event and observed Moon, Jupiter (and the satellites) and other stars under expert guidance.

There were seven stations set up - Activity Corner, Curiosity Corner, Movie Plaza, Photo Gallery, Telescope, SkyScout and Portfolio center. Children in seven groups took turns to participate in the activities organised in each station.

Teachers conducted hands-on activities on phases of moon, constellations, weight on different planets (children stand on a weighing scale, record their weight on a spreadsheet and get a printout of the weight on different planets!), age on different planets, quiz, and many more in the Activity Corner.

Curiosity Corner is where children explored the universe using Celestia, Stellarium, Google Sky and WWT (all these on 19 inch Touchscreen monitors!). Experts in the Curiosity Corner answered various kinds of questions from the little ones.

Interesting movies such as Birth of the Universe, Chandrayaan mission, Mars mission and many more were screened in the Movie Plaza - on a big screen with high quality accoustics!

The Photo Gallery displayed posters on three themes - Great Astronomers, Space Vehicles and Celestial bodies.

The participants were given Certificate of "Send your name to Mars" Registration, CD containing a rare collection of videos and software applications on astronomy , activity worksheets and snapshots of the celestial world captured with the help of the telescope along with participation certificates.

Due to very high demand from the public, we are planning to conduct a repeat of this program on 30, 31 Oct.