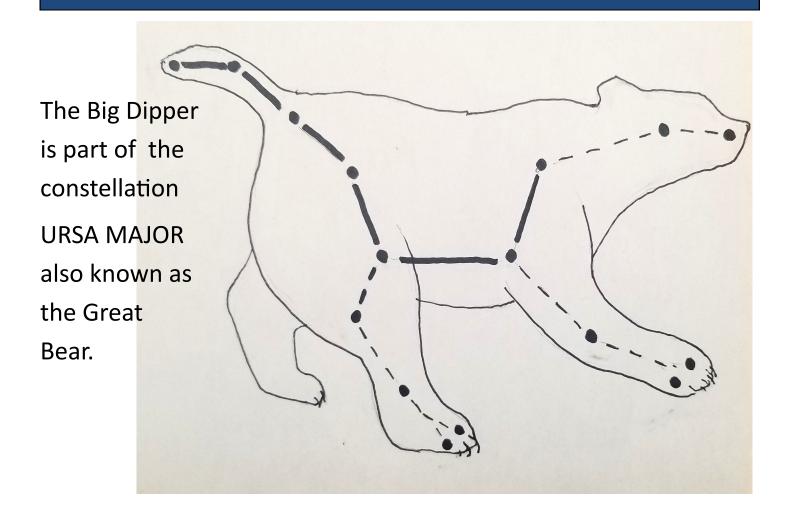


Nature Journal: The Night Sky

Constellations

Throughout time, people have looked up into the night sky and seen patterns in the stars. Many carry the names of the gods and goddesses from different cultures. Others are named after objects, animals or adventures.

Patterns of stars in the night sky form a constellation. Although they look like they are close together when we view them from Earth, the stars are very far apart. There are 88 constellations, but not all can be seen from one place or one time. Stars move across our night sky based on the Earth's rotation and where it is as it travels through space. You can use a Star Wheel to figure out which constellations you can see.



Nature Journal: The Night Sky Create Constellation Scopes

You Will Need:

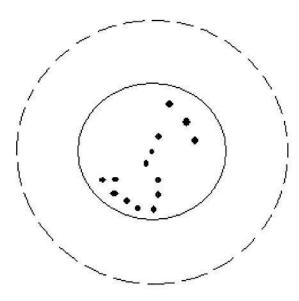
- * Scissors
- Glue, tape, rubber band or an elastic hair band
- * Pencil, thumb tack, or other fine sharp tool
- Crayons or markers
- * Constellation patterns sheets

Make Your Scope:

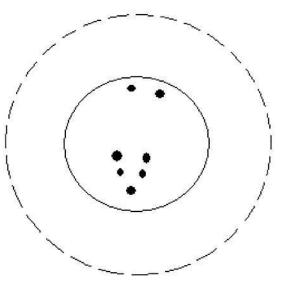
- 1) Print out the constellation patterns from the Museum of Science.
- 2) Use the scissors to cut out the constellation along the dashed line or larger.
- 3) Place over one end of the cardboard tube and attach with tape, glue, or rubber/elastic band.
- 4) With a pencil point or thumb tack poke small holes at each dot that represents a star.
- 5) Decorate with markers or crayons. Write the constellation on the tube to remember it!
- 6) Put the scope up to your eye to see the constellation or put a flashlight inside to make a projector!



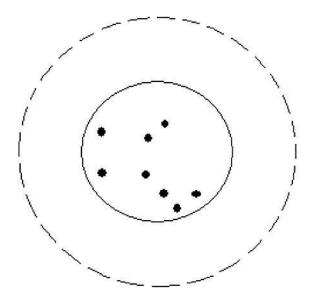
Constellation : A group of stars forming a pattern



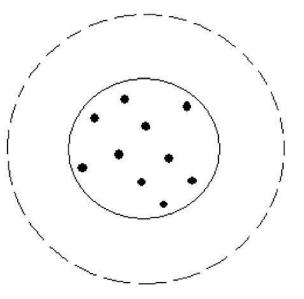
SCORPIUS, the Scorpion



TAURUS, the Bull



PEGASUS, the Horse

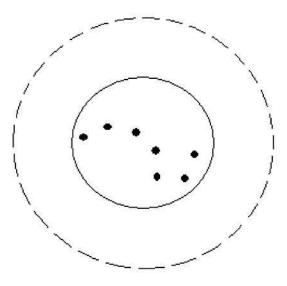


GEMINI, the Twins

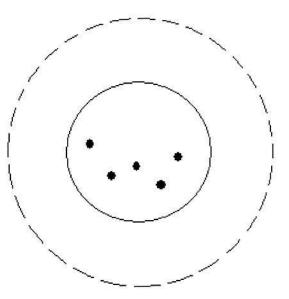


Constellation Patterns

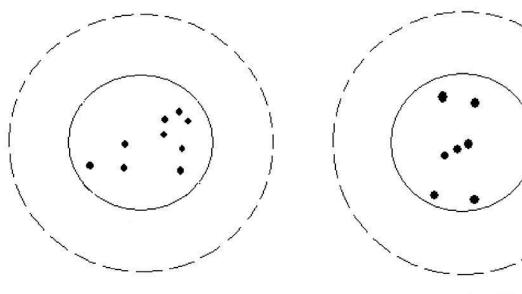
(Instructions: Cut out patterns along the dotted lines, not the solid lines.)



THE BIG DIPPER, part of the Great Bear



CASSIOPEIA, the Queen



LEO, the Lion

ORION, the Hunter