

Kid Scoop®

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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Sky Pictures

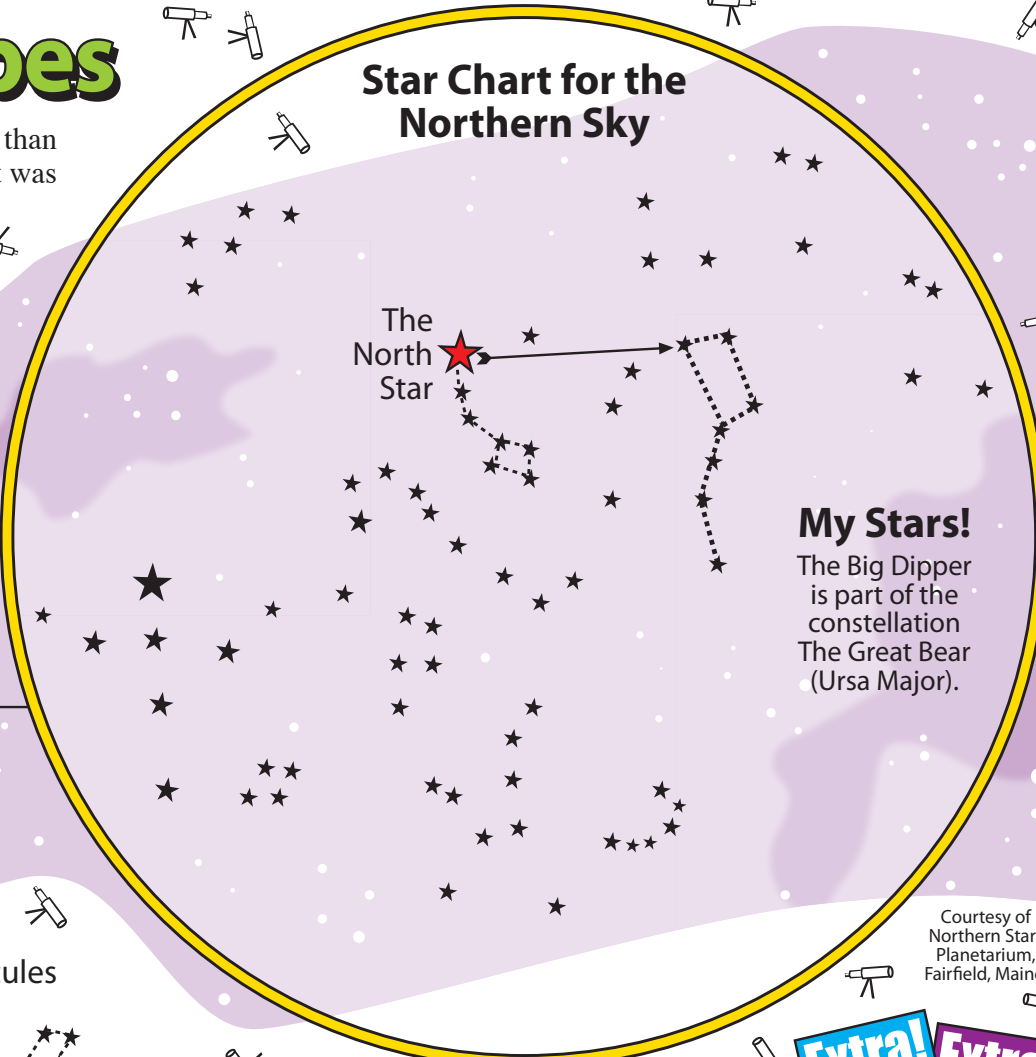
A huge dot-to-dot game is right above your head and you can play it on any cloudless night.

Stellar Shapes

The ancient Greeks contributed more than the Olympic Games to the world. It was in Athens that people first invented democracy, a government by the people, for the people. Ancient Greeks also contributed greatly to modern astronomy.

For thousands of years, people have looked at the stars in the sky and imagined shapes and patterns. The ancient Greeks saw that some stars formed groups that reminded them of people or animals or things like arrows and crowns. Today, we call groups of stars that make up pictures **constellations**.

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know the patterns of stars and that different stars can be seen in different seasons.



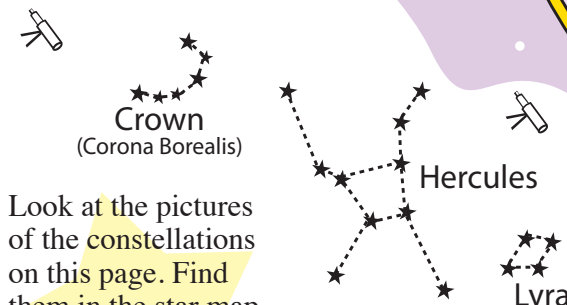
Star Chart for the Northern Sky

The North Star

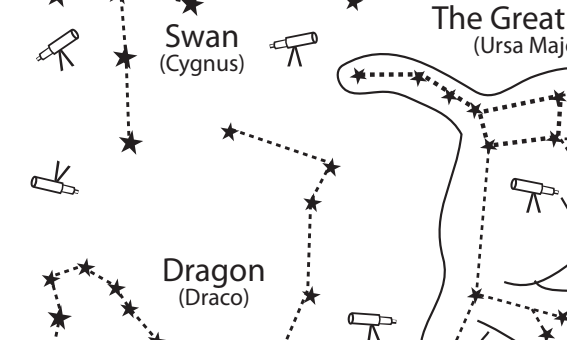
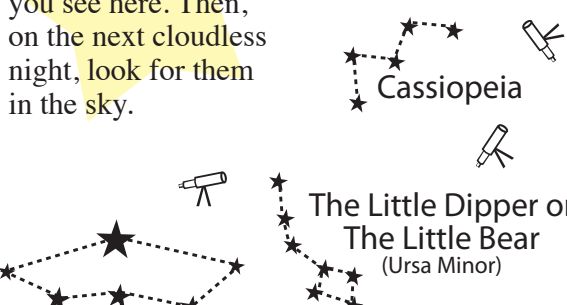
My Stars!

The Big Dipper is part of the constellation The Great Bear (Ursa Major).

Courtesy of Northern Stars Planetarium, Fairfield, Maine.



Look at the pictures of the constellations on this page. Find them in the star map you see here. Then, on the next cloudless night, look for them in the sky.



Star Power

The North Star or Polaris is not the biggest or the brightest star, but it is the most important. It stays in the same spot and can be used to find other stars. Travelers use it to find their directions when they don't have a compass. The two stars at the tip of The Big Dipper's bowl help you to find the North Star.

Bear Tails

An ancient Greek legend tells the story of a beautiful woman named Callisto who loved her son Arcas. One day the goddess queen, Hera, became angry with Callisto and turned her into a bear.

When Arcas went hunting he came upon a bear in the woods. It was his mother, but she couldn't tell him.

Arcas was about to kill the bear when the king of the gods, Zeus, changed him into a bear too. Zeus lifted the bears by their tails and swung them into the sky. This caused their tails to stretch and that is the reason the Great and Little Bears have long tails.

Standards Link: Literary Analysis: Comprehend basic plots of legends from around the world.

Extra! Extra!

Seeing Stars, Dots, Speckles, Stripes and Spots

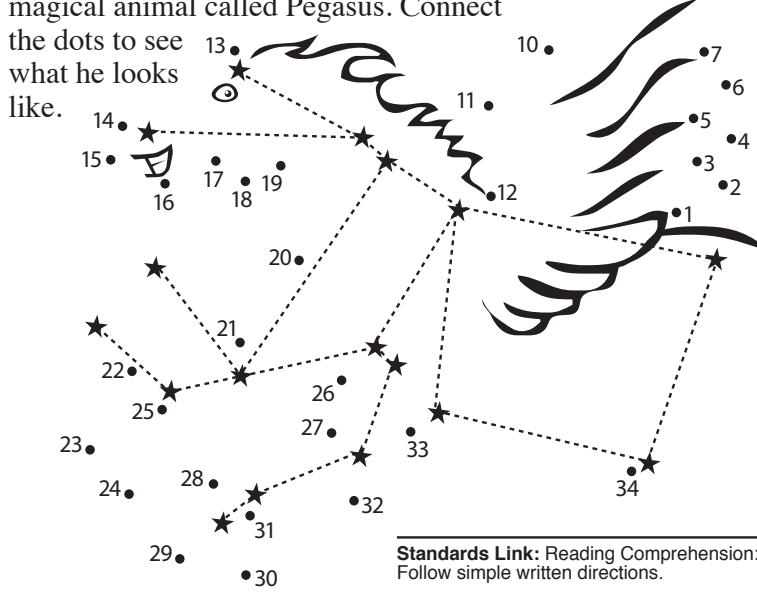
Look through the newspaper and find and cut out pictures of dots, spots, speckles, stripes and STARS! Use these to create a new design.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

How many telescopes can you find on this page?

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Like civilizations that came before them, ancient Greeks gave constellations names. This one is a magical animal called Pegasus. Connect the dots to see what he looks like.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

- STARS
- ZEUS
- BEARS
- DIPPER
- COMPASS
- GREEKS
- NIGHT
- ANGRY
- SHAPES
- SWAN
- PEGASUS
- ATHENS
- MAP
- SKY
- LYRA



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Constellation Dot-to-Dot

On one page of the newspaper, find and circle the letters that spell the name of a constellation. Connect the circled letters to make a design. Decorate your design!

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade level appropriate words correctly; Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Why did the astronomer hit himself on the head in the afternoon?

ANSWER: He wanted to see stars during the day.

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