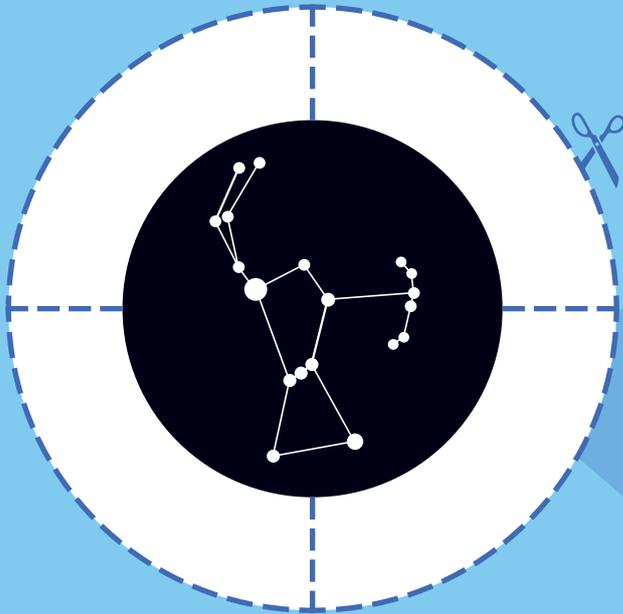
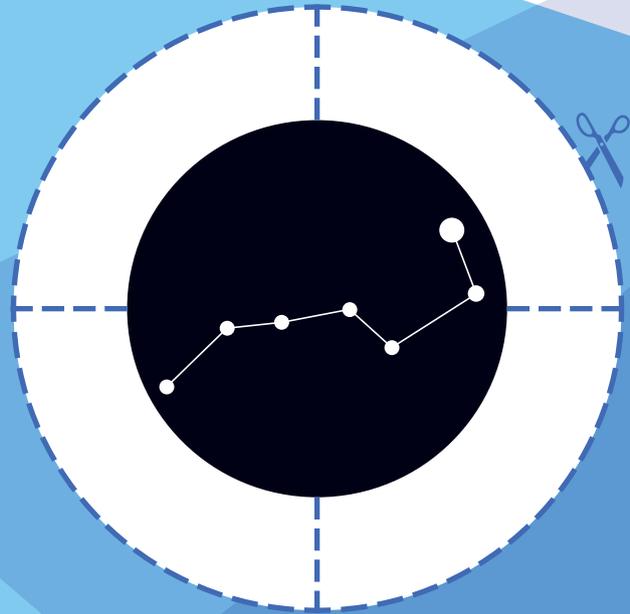


YOUR STAR CUTOUTS

Remember to make sure you have an adult with you while you're doing this activity. Cut out each circle along the outer dotted line and then cut along the four short dotted lines to make 4 flaps on each. Look at 'Make a star viewer!' on the following page to find the full instructions.

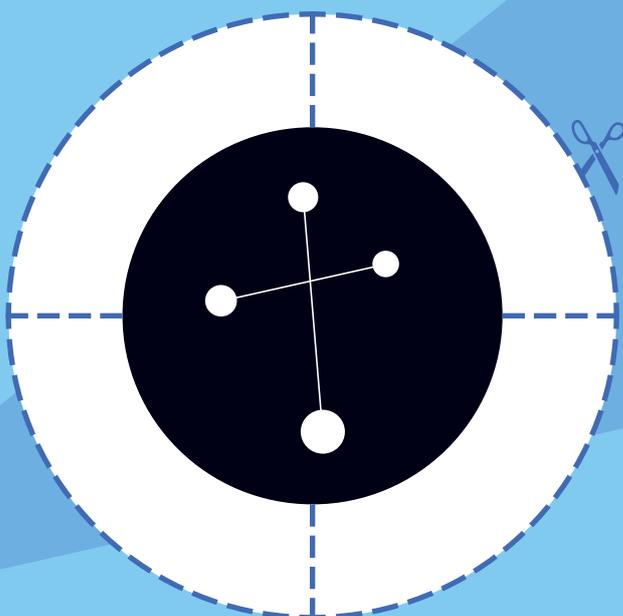


AL-JABBAR (An Arabic constellation that translates to The Giant. Also known as Orion)

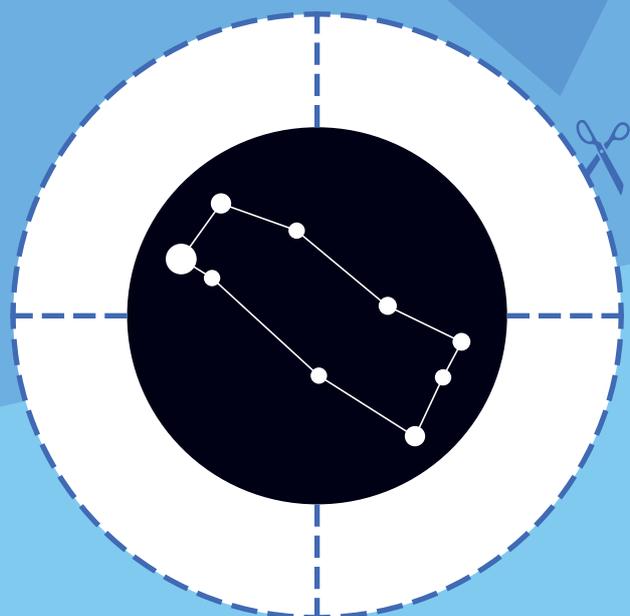


BUKDUTCHILSEONG (A Korean constellation. Also known as the Seven Stars of the Northern Dipper or Ursa Major)

Put your pattern on top of your tube, with the constellation facing the inside, fold the paper down and hold it in place with a rubber/hair band.



THUTLWA (Named by Sotho, Tswana and Venda speakers in South Africa, this translates to the Male Giraffe. Also known as the Crux)



CITLALTLAGHTLI (An Aztec constellation that translates to The Ball Game of the Stars. Uses some of the same stars found in Gemini)

MAKE A STAR VIEWER!



HOME
ACTIVITY

Scientists are always looking for patterns to help us understand our world. Sometimes they look for patterns in really small things like the cells that make up your body; sometimes in much bigger things like the stars that make up the night sky.

When you look up at night, how many stars can you see?

Remember to make sure you have an adult with you while you're doing this activity.

Did you know?

For thousands of years, people from different cultures all over the world have looked up, seen patterns in the stars, and made incredible stories from them. These groups of stars are called constellations.

Even though constellations are made up patterns, they have helped people track time, sail across seas, and record amazing events like comets. Today astronomers, who are scientists that study space, use constellations to spot which stars are which.

What stories have you and your grown-ups heard that have come from constellations?

You'll need:

- A cardboard tube (like one you find in the middle of a kitchen towel roll or toilet paper roll)
- Things to decorate your cardboard, such as paint, coloured paper, stickers, felt tip pens, crayons, glitter – the possibilities are endless!
- Your constellation cutouts (on the previous page!)
- Scissors
- A pin or a sharp pencil
- A rubber band or hairband

1 Decorate the outside of your cardboard tube however you like – with stars? Planets? Maybe something completely different!

2 Use scissors to cut out each of the constellation patterns.

3 On each constellation pattern, use a pin/sharp pencil to poke a small hole where each star is – ask a grown up to help you for this bit

4 Put your pattern on top of your tube, fold the paper down and hold it in place with a rubber/hair band.

To use your star viewer, hold it to your eye and look at the light coming through the holes.

You will see the outline of each star pattern as it would appear in a clear sky at night.

TOP TIP

You can also shine a light through the constellation to shine the pattern of the stars on the wall of a dark room. Why not cut out some blank circles and make your own constellations?

THE SCIENCE

Some scientists use telescopes to help them investigate far away patterns in the night sky.

Scientists at the Francis Crick Institute use equipment like microscopes to help them look for patterns in things that are too small to see with the naked eye, like cells, bacteria and viruses.



CRICK SCIENTISTS HELPING TO FIGHT CORONAVIRUS

The Crick wants to do all we can to help tackle the coronavirus. Scientists and staff across the Crick have stopped doing their normal jobs and are volunteering to help with testing for NHS staff. Crick scientists are also trying to find out more about the virus, working with scientists all over the world to find new tests, vaccines and treatments to help bring the pandemic under control.