CONSTELLATIONS



Hi there! My name is Brittany and I am a student studying science at Queen's University. Today we are going to learn about <u>groups of stars</u>that, together, make <u>constellations</u>!

LIBRA

CASSIOPEIA

BIG DIPPER (URSA MAJOR) What is a star?

<u>Stars</u> are huge balls of burning gas. The Sun is the closest star to us. There are many other stars in our galaxy - these are further away, so we can only see them at night.

What is a constellation?

A <u>constellation</u> is a pattern of stars. Long ago, people named these constellations after gods, legendary heroes and heroines, animals, and cooking utensils (like the Big Dipper!)

MAKE YOUR OWN CONSTELLATION!

Materials

- Disposable cup
- Black construction pape
- Thumbtack or safety pin
- Glue or tape
- · Crayons, coloured pencils, or markers
- A printout of the constellation illustrations - or draw your own!



Careful! Ask an adult for help.

Decorate your cup and write your name on it.



Carefully cut out the bottom of the cup.



Glue or tape a piece of black construction paper to the bottom of the cup. Tape the outline of the constellation on the outside of the black construction paper.



Use a thumbtack to poke holes through the large black dots that represent stars to create your constellation.



Look through the cup to see the constellation!





