



Be an astronomer at your ... home!

Let's discover the science of astronomy with the
astronomers of Hellenic Amateur Astronomy Association!



EXPLORATION
CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM





STUDY the constellations!

If you observe the sky on a moonless night,
you will certainly see too many stars!

Sometimes the stars seem to be alone,
others to form bigger groups.

These formations are **CONSTELLATIONS!**

What are the constellations?



A constellation is a shape formed by a group of stars in the sky.

You need to pay attention in order to recognize this shape in the sky.

The stars that form a constellation do not have a physical relation. In fact, they may even be at a different distance from Earth. That's why different civilizations across the globe have recognized different formation patterns..

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Today, astronomers have agreed that there are about 88 constellations in the sky.



The list of constellations established in 1922 by the International Astronomical Union:

And	Andromeda	CVn	Canes Venatici	Ori	Orion
Ant	Antlia	Cyg	Cygnus	Pav	Pavo
Aps	Apus	Del	Delphinus	Peg	Pegasus
Aql	Aquila	Dor	Dorado	Per	Perseus
Aqr	Aquarius	Dra	Draco	Phe	Phoenix
Ara	Ara	Equ	Equuleus	Pic	Pictor
Arg	Argo	Eri	Eridanus	PsA	Piscis Austrinus
Ari	Aries	For	Fornax	Psc	Pisces
Aur	Auriga	Gem	Gemini	Pup	Puppis
Boo	Bootes	Gru	Grus	Pyx	Pyxis
Cae	Caelum	Her	Hercules	Ret	Reticulum
Cam	Camelopardalis	Hor	Horologium	Scl	Sculptor
Cap	Capricornus	Hya	Hydra	Sco	Scorpius
Car	Carina	Hyi	Hydrus	Sct	Scutum
Cas	Cassiopeia	Ind	Indus	Ser	Serpens
Cen	Centaurus	Lac	Lacerta	Sex	Sextans
Cep	Cepheus	Leo	Leo	Sge	Sagitta
Cet	Cetus	Lep	Lepus	Sgr	Sagittarius
Cha	Chamaeleon	Lib	Libra	Tau	Taurus
Cir	Circinus	LMi	Leo Minor	Tel	Telescopium
CMa	Canis Major	Lup	Lupus	TrA	Triangulum Australe
CMi	Canis Minor	Lyn	Lynx	Tri	Triangulum
Cnc	Cancer	Lyr	Lyra	Tuc	Tucana
Col	Columba	Men	Mensa	UMa	Ursa Major
Com	Coma	Mic	Microscopium	UMi	Ursa Minor
CrA	Corona Australis	Mon	Monoceros	Vel	Vela
CrB	Corono Borealis	Mus	Musca	Vir	Virgo
Crt	Crater	Nor	Norma	Vol	Volans
Cru	Crux	Oct	Octans	Vul	Vulpecula
Crv	Corvus	Oph	Ophiuchus		

Reading instructions:



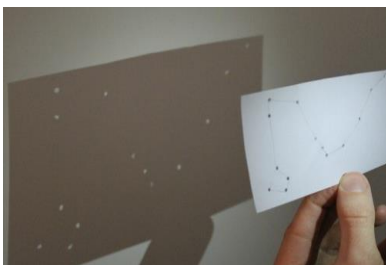
How do we read the constellations?

STEP 1:

Download and print the constellation cards from Exploration Children's Museum's page.

Study the names and the shapes of the constellations.

- What names do you recognize?
- What shapes have you seen before?



STEP 2:

Don't forget to read the names of the constellations on the list of the International Astronomical Union, the chart you've seen above!

- What other constellations do you recognize?
- Read the names of the constellations and imagine their patterns in the sky! What is the connection between their names and their patterns?



STEP 3:

Choose the constellations you like the most.

With the help of an adult, pierce the dots of constellation's shape.

Now, place the paper in front of the wall, in a dark place in the house. The darker the room, the better!

Turn on the flashlight in front of the card and observe the shape on the wall.

- Which points of the constellation can you see?



Don't forget the planisphere!

It will help you discover the constellations in the sky!

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*Let's observe now
the constellations in the sky!*





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Γίνε αστρονόμος στο σπίτι!

Be an astronomer at your home!

Observing constellations

Crete | Greece

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