

Name _____

Constellations Introduction

Many of our ancient ancestors observed patterns in the sky and many of them were similar patterns. The patterns are referred to as constellations. Different cultures around the world observed different patterns, and at different times of the year. Answer the following questions as you work through the different activities.

Activity 1 – Patterns in the Night Sky

1. Draw the pattern that is projected on the front board.



2. Have you observed this pattern before in the night sky? Explain your answer.
3. Why do you think the different cultures “observed” a different object with the same pattern?

Activity 2 – Seasons and Constellations

Follow the steps on the yellow direction sheet to create a model of the constellations. Follow the steps accurately, as no guidance will be given by the teacher. When the model is complete answer the following questions.

4. What pattern do you observe as the Earth orbits the Sun, going from one season to the next? Provide evidence to support your answer.
5. At which point on Earth, would we be unable to see, from St. George, Aries, Pisces, and Aquarius? Provide evidence to support your answer.
6. Which constellations would we be unable to see, from St. George, at Point C? Provide evidence for your answer.

Activity 3 – It's all Greek to Me?

The Ancient Greeks created myths about the patterns they observed in the night sky to make sense of the Earth and its place in the Universe. Your group was supplied with a groups of constellations and the mythological understanding of that constellation. Choose 10 out of the 28, and 1) **draw** the pattern (constellation) and 2) **write the mythological story**, and 3) **write the name** of the constellation.

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