

# Adopt A Constellation

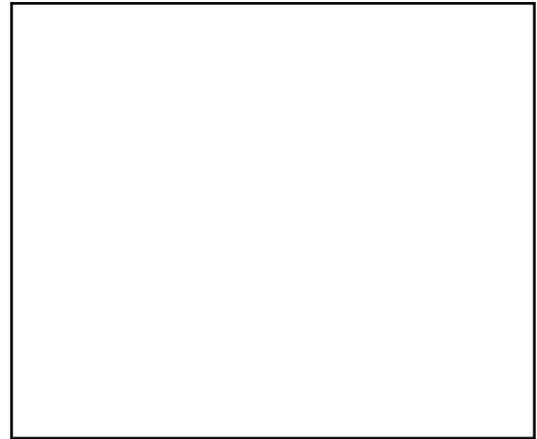


by \_\_\_\_\_

Constellation \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

History:



My Constellation

Stars in my constellation:

Name	Type of Star	Distance from Earth	Magnitude	Color & Surface Temperature

Fascinating facts about my constellation:

1.

2.

3.



# Adopt-A-Constellation Project

## Student Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

My constellation is \_\_\_\_\_.

For this project, you will need to use printed and online resources to research a constellation. A variety of websites have been listed on the *Stars & Constellations* page of the *Kid Zone* at <http://sciencespot.net/>. Use the information on this page to help you as you research your constellation. Final drafts must be written in black ink and include a list of at least 3 references you used for your information.

Discover the name of your constellation as well as the nickname.

Describe the history of your constellation.

Draw a diagram of your constellation. Label the major stars and provide lines to show the “shape” and/or outline of the constellation.

Provide a list of the major stars in your constellation. Research each to find the information to complete the chart.

What else did you learn about your constellation?  
Write three sentences to share additional information, such as where it is located, if it is used to “point” to other constellations and planets, or facts about the stars found in your constellation.

### Don't forget ...

Include at least 3 references on the back of your worksheet. If it is a book, include the title and author. If it is a website, provide the title and URL.

### Want extra credit?

Make a constellation viewer! You may use a variety of materials and designs to create a viewer to help other students identify your constellation in the night sky! The viewer must provide an accurate view of your constellation and be labeled with the constellation's name as well as your name.

*Adopt A Constellation*  
by

Constellation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
 History: \_\_\_\_\_

*My Constellation*

Stars in my constellation:				
Name	Type of Star	Distance from Earth	Magnitude	Color & Surface Temperature

Factoring this about my constellation:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

T. Trimpe <http://sciencespot.net/>

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Adopt-A-Constellation Teacher Information

### Materials Needed:

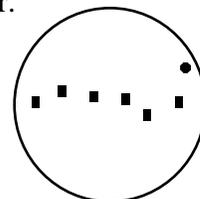
- Copies of student worksheet
- Research materials (encyclopedias, books, astronomy literature)
- Film Canisters (black w/ flat gray lids)
- Tools for punching holes in lids

### Project Tips:

- Allow at least two class periods to complete this project. One period for research and another for completing the report form and film canister constellations (extra credit).
- When viewing stars, use the Star Guide and a flashlight covered with red cellophane. Red light affects night vision less than does white light.
- If possible, schedule a visit from the Skylab or visit your local planetarium. If field trips are out of the question, invite students to join you for a night class to view the stars.

### To make film canister constellations:

1. Make a miniature diagram of the constellation that will fit inside the lid of a film canister.
2. Cut out diagram and center inside the lid.
3. Use a sharp tool to punch out the positions of the stars.
4. Also punch a small "viewing" hole on the other end of the canister.
5. Write the name of the constellation on the outside of the container.
6. Replace lid and hold up to the light!



### Excellent Resources:

- *Constellations for Every Kid* by Janice VanCleave - one of my favorite resources!
- *Ranger Rick's Nature Scope: Astronomy Adventures* - contains background info and worksheets on an assortment of astronomy topics.
- Visit the links listed on the Astronomy page of the Kid Zone - <http://sciencespot.net/Pages/kidzone.html> - for more information on constellations.

Next page ... A list of constellations used for our projects. Cut apart the names and have each student draw a constellation!

Andromeda	Corvus	Perseus
Aries	Cygnus	Phoenix
Auriga	Draco	Pisces
Aquarius	Eridanus	Puppis
Aquila	Gemini	Sagittarius
Bootes	Grus	Scorpius
Cancer	Hercules	Taurus
Canis Major	Hydra	Ursa Major
Canis Minor	Leo	Ursa Minor
Capricornus	Lepus	Vela
Cassiopeia	Libra	Virgo
Centaurus	Lyra	
Cepheus	Ophiuchus	
Cetus	Orion	
Columbia	Pegasus	