make your own
CONSTELLATION viewer

the Big Dipper
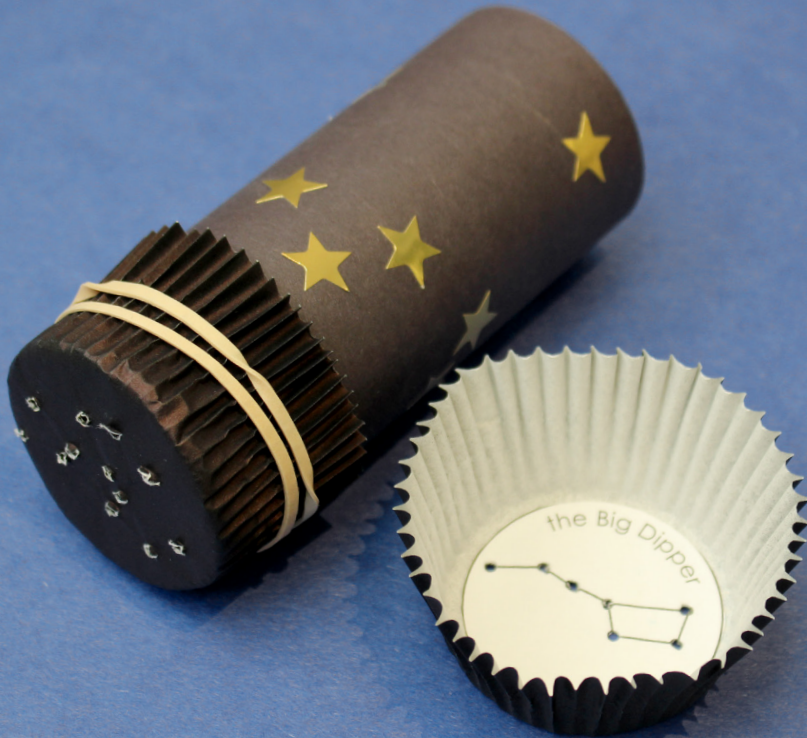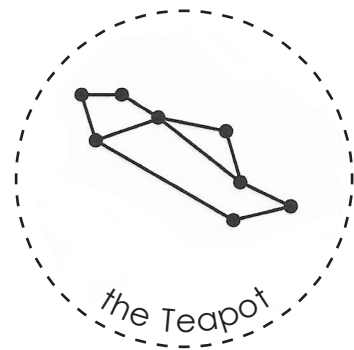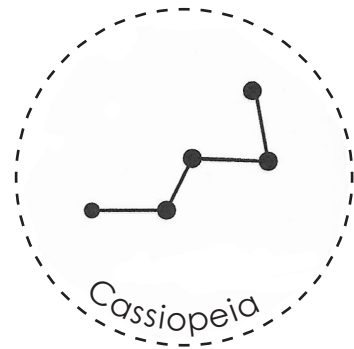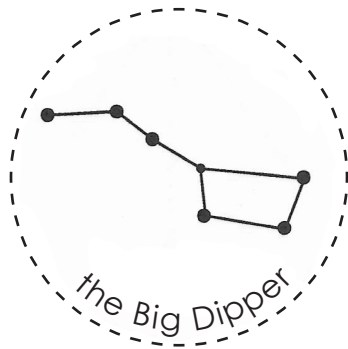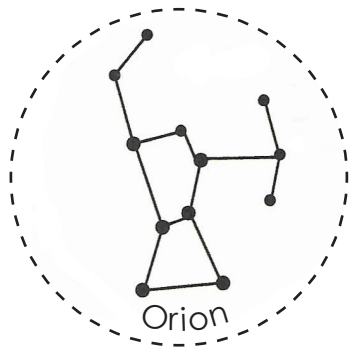
You will need:

- a cardboard tube
- paper muffin liners
- rubber band
- star maps & info cards (included in this PDF)
- a toothpick, pin, or paperclip
- glue stick
- scissors
- black paper (optional)
- star stickers (optional)

1 Decorate a cardboard tube however you want (we wrapped it in black paper around a cardboard tube and stuck on star stickers).

2 Cut out the 9 constellation maps and glue each one inside a muffin tin liner.

3 Use a toothpick or paperclip to poke through the "stars" for each constellation. A pin or thumbtack also work. Ask an adult if you need help.

4 Place a constellation over the end of your tube. Secure it with a rubber band.

5 Look through the open end of your viewer to see a constellation!

Change the muffin paper to see a different group of stars.

6 Practice identifying the different constellations and you'll be ready to find them in the night sky!

CONSTELLATION MAPS

(cut out and glue inside paper muffin liners)

Orion

the Big Dipper

Cassiopeia

Andromeda

ursa minor

the Teapot

Hercules

Cancer

Pegasus
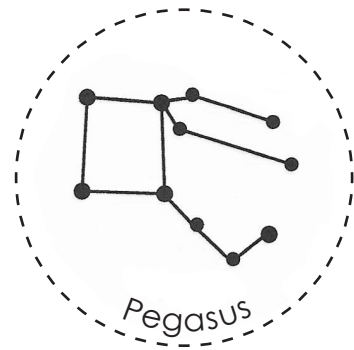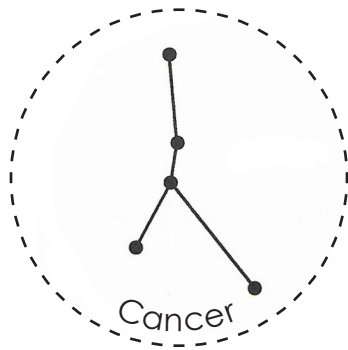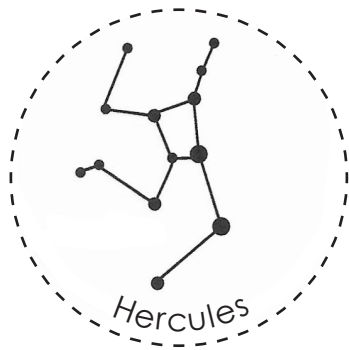
Orion
"the hunter"
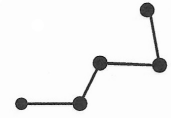
Northern Hemisphere:
November - February

Southern Hemisphere:
November - February

Big Dipper
part of "the great bear"

Northern Hemisphere:
All year

Southern Hemisphere:
All year in northern parts (not visible in Southern Australia)

Cassiopeia

Northern Hemisphere:
All year

Southern Hemisphere:
November - December (not visible in Southern Australia)

Andromeda
"the princess"
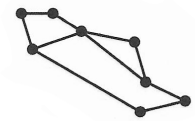
Northern Hemisphere:
August - February

Southern Hemisphere:
October - December

Ursa Minor
"the Little Dipper"

Northern Hemisphere:
all year

Southern Hemisphere:
not visible in most areas

the Teapot
part of Sagittarius

Northern Hemisphere:
August - October

Southern Hemisphere:
June - November

Hercules
"the hero"

Northern Hemisphere:
April - November

Southern Hemisphere:
June - September

Cancer
"the crab"

Northern Hemisphere:
Fall - Spring

Southern Hemisphere:
Summer - Fall

Pegasus
"the stallion"

Northern Hemisphere:
July - January

Southern Hemisphere:
August - December