

SCAVENGER HUNT

Check out our <u>stargazing video</u> for more information!

Then download **NightSky** on iOS or **SkyView Light** on GooglePlay to get started.

The Planets

- Start with **Venus**, which should be just above or below the horizon to the West (your star app should tell you where West is).
- Then follow the ecliptic to find the other planets:
 - Mercury
 - o Mars
 - Jupiter
 - Saturn
 - Uranus
 - Neptune

Zodiac Constellations

- These are the constellations that appear along the ecliptic. Which constellation is Venus in right now?
- Then follow the ecliptic to find some others in the current night sky:
 - o Gemini
 - Leo
 - Virgo
 - Libra

Other Constellations

- Look up at your zenith (directly up) and just off-center. You should find **Ursa Major** constellation, which surrounds the **Big Dipper** asterism.
 - The two stars that make up the edge of the "bowl" in the dipper create a line to the **North Star**. Follow that line, past the brighter star, to find **Polaris,** a.k.a. the North Star.
 - Polaris is the last star in the "handle" of the Little Dipper in Ursa Minor.
- Finally, find these other constellations. Some are in the night sky, others will be below you:
 - Orion The most recognized constellation
 - Hydra The longest modern asterism
 - O Cygnus Home of Albireo, a commonly viewed binary star system
 - Andromeda Our closest neighboring galaxy can be found nearby
 - o Canis Major Sirius, the brightest star in our sky is in this one
 - Phoenix Phoenixes are just cool
 - Cetus You can find Eris, our furthest named dwarf planet nearby