



DAY 24

Glow-in-the-Dark Stars

The Constellations

Humans have looked to the stars for answers for thousands of years, so it makes sense that they were combined into groups — called constellations — to make locating them easier.

By looking for patterns, the stars and locations can be much easier to remember and spot. One major use for constellations was in navigation, usually by locating the North Star, also known as Polaris. By finding Ursa Minor — a constellation located in the far northern sky that is also known as the Little Dipper — it is easy to spot Polaris, which is the star at the end of the ladle's handle. Then, using the altitude of Polaris in the sky, navigators could figure out their latitude. Constellations were also used to help keep track of the calendar, which let people know when to plant and harvest crops. Since different constellations are visible at different times of the year, farmers could use them to determine what month it was.

Here you will find a few examples of constellations that you can recreate using your glow-in-the-dark stars. Then, see if you can spot them in the night sky!

