



Wondernauts in Space

Wondering About the Past

Constellations Across Cultures

Recommended for: Ages 13 and Up



People have used the constellations to relate stories of their beliefs, experiences, creation, or mythology throughout human history. Different cultures and countries often adopted their own constellations and recognition of constellations has changed significantly over time. Even those cultures that recognize the same set of stars often have different stories behind them.

In this activity you will reflect on how some of those stories compare. You will also research to find stories for different constellations from cultures other than your own.

You will Need

- A reliable internet connection

(1) Wonder

- Why do different cultures tell different stories?

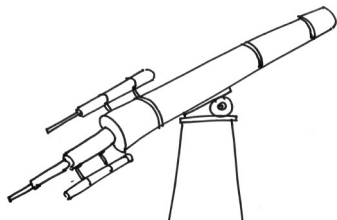
(2) Read

Ursa Major Myths from Around the World [\[download\]](#)

(3) Think

Compare the seven different stories about the *ursa major* constellation contained in the pdf linked above.

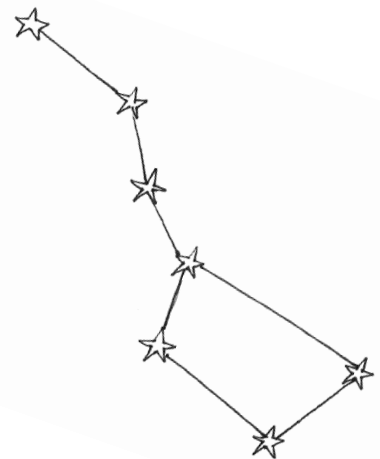
1. What similarities do you see in the stories?
2. What differences?
3. What might these stories say about the cultures that created



(4) Research

Select another of the constellations listed below and see if you can find alternate stories for it from a different culture.

- [Andromeda](#)
- [Aquarius](#)
- [Aries](#)
- [Cancer](#)
- [Capricornus](#)
- [Cassiopeia](#)
- [Cygnus](#)
- [Draco](#)
- [Gemini](#)
- [Hercules](#)
- [Hydra](#)
- [Leo](#)
- [Libra](#)
- [Lyra](#)
- [Orion](#)
- [Perseus](#)
- [Pisces](#)
- [Sagittarius](#)
- [Scorpius](#)
- [Taurus](#)
- [Virgo](#)



JEWS IN SPACE Wondernauts.org
MEMBERS OF THE TRIBE IN ORBIT

Want to complete this task towards collecting a Wondernaut badge? Write down your thoughts about the questions above and post them, along with a link to the alternate story or stories you found.

JMM is an agency of The Associated

