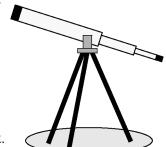
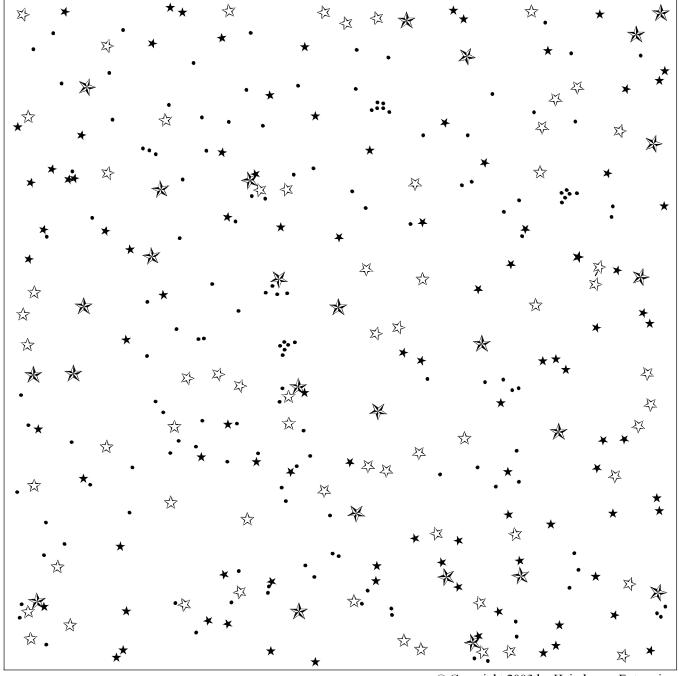
CONSTELLATION CONFUSION: Worksheet

Each constellation on the Reference Chart is included in the image below. Find them and trace them out using the same connecting lines. Here are some things to remember as you search ...



- 1. Constellations are plotted the same <u>size</u> as on the Reference Chart, but ...
- 2. Constellations may be <u>rotated</u> from how they appear on the Reference Chart.
- 3. There are over a 100 additional stars plotted, beyond those in the constellations.
- 4. Other false stars may appear inside the constellations (like planets do in the real sky).

Hint: keying off the brightest stars in a constellation is the easiest way to spot it. Happy stargazing!

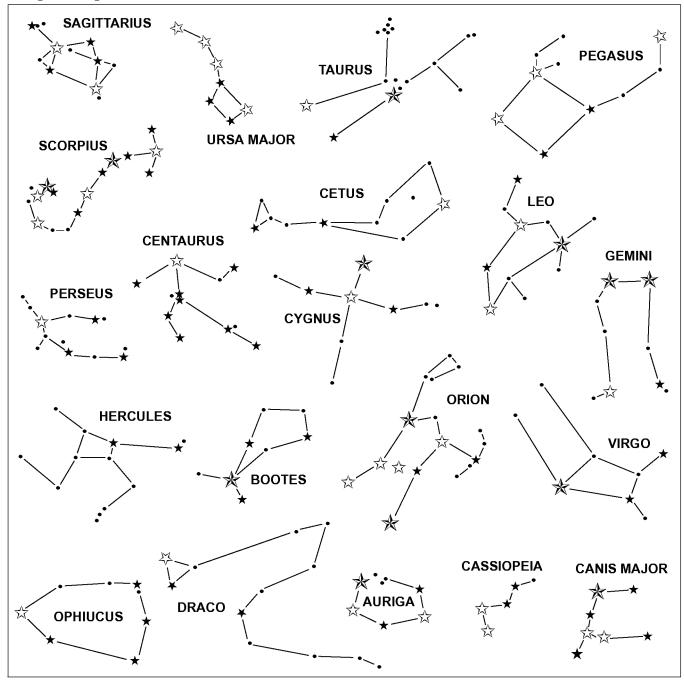


CONSTELLATION CONFUSION: Reference Chart

Constellations are groups of stars that look like recognizable objects. It's difficult to see all the fainter stars that make up the shape, unless you are out of the city under clear dark skies. They were named long ago by the first astronomers, and are still used today to divide the night sky into manageable areas.

Twenty of the largest or most prominent constellations are shown in the diagram. All are drawn to their approximate relative size, but their orientations are arbitrary ... they won't always turned the way you see them here. This is one of the most difficult things about astronomy ... you have to learn how to rotate things in your "mind's eye" in order to recognize them. *Constellation Confusion* is an exercise that will help you develop this skill.

Designed for grades 6-12



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CONSTELLATION CONFUSION: Answer Key

Count your answer correct only if it includes all the lines and stars on the Reference Chart. Add up the total correct and find your ranking on the scale below:

20 correct: Cosmic 18 correct: Galactic

16 correct: Stellar 14 correct: Planetary

12 correct: Lost in Space

Special Deal for Teachers:

You are hereby licensed to use *Constellation Confusion* in your in your classes whenever and however you want. You may copy but not sell these materials on an unlimited basis.

