



Astronomy on Camp

One of the most vivid memories you can create in the minds of Cub Scouts is to spend a night out under the stars. You will nearly always end up talking about the wonder of the Universe.

Explore the possibilities of space travel with your Cubs. Plan a programme cycle around this subject matter and culminate with your space themed summer camp.

Plan

Planning: Sixer Council

Choose a space theme for summer camp Star Wars, Space Invaders, Aliens, Star Trek, Astronauts, International Space Station, MIB – Men in Black, Mars Attacks

Astronaut costumes or Alien costumes?????

Plan to make a star chart or star discs on camp

Have a space hopper race

Borrow a telescope

**Preparation:**

- Visit the NASA website to download a pdf of the night sky for the month <http://earthsky.org/tonight>
- Visit an observatory or planetarium
- Ask a member of Astronomy Ireland to visit your summer camp and show you the constellations on their telescope.
Astronomy Ireland's Education Officers travel around Ireland giving talks on astronomy as part of a new education programme.
- European Space Education Resource Office Ireland (ESERO) promotes space as a theme to inspire and engage young people – for resources and experiments check out <http://esero.ie/primary-level/>

Plan

Which Travel Cards could we use?



Sean's **Orange** Travel Card – **Exploring My Beliefs**

Turas – Why do you think that some of the constellations are named after animals?

Taisteal – Learn the names of a some the constellations and find them in the night sky

Tagann – Imagine you are going to create a new planet. What would you include? What would you leave out?



Eva's **Purple** Travel Card - **Others emotions**

Turas – Find out what made the Cubs in your Six happy on camp

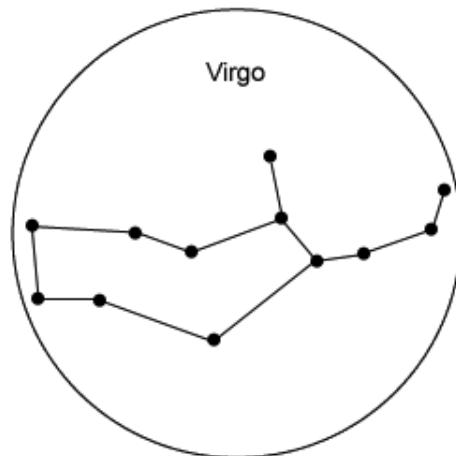
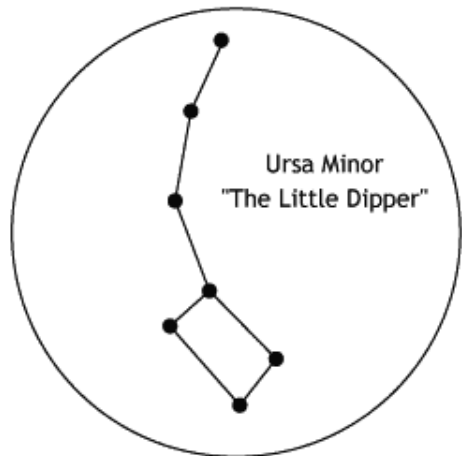
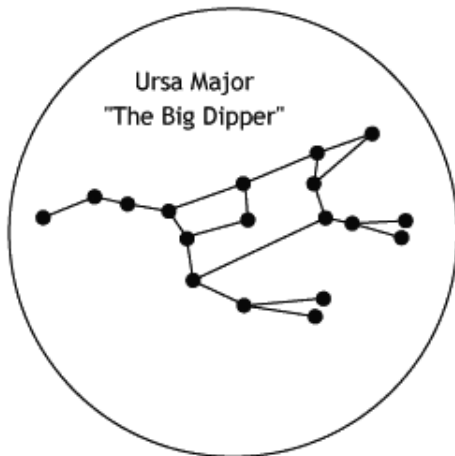
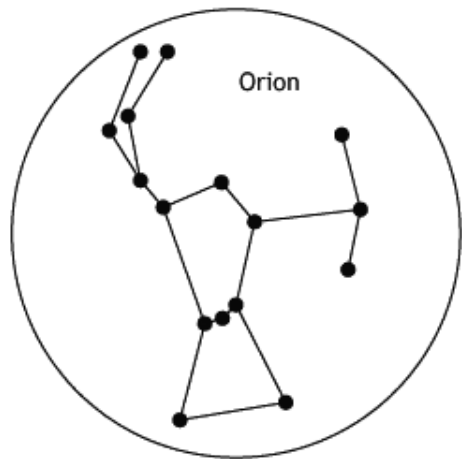
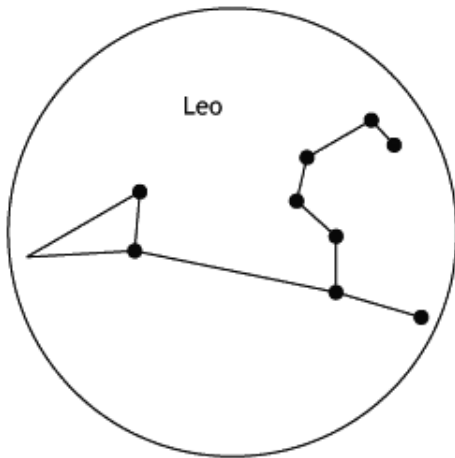
Taisteal – Ask your “Buddy” how it feels to be so small under such a huge night sky

Tagann- Choose campfire songs about stars or the moon that will make the Cub Pack happy

Do

- Have sketches based on life on other planets
- You are planning a manned space mission to Jupiter. Only one Cub will be chosen to go on this mission. Each Cub who volunteers to go on this mission must convince the rest of the Pack why he/she is the obvious choice. A vote will decide the winning candidate
- Make cardboard star discs of the most common constellations using the template on the next page. Tie them together with string or ribbon.





CONSTELLATION TEMPLATE

Review



Gather the Cub Scouts in their Sixes and with the help of a Scouter, perform the review. Each Cub Scout can mark of parts of their travel cards which is relevant to their role in the activity.

Sean's **Orange** Travel Card – **Exploring My Beliefs**

Turas – Did you find out why some of the constellations are named after animals?

Taisteal – How many constellations did you find?

Tagann – Would your new world be a better place than planet Earth?

Eva's **Purple** Travel Card - **Others emotions**

Turas – What made people happy on Camp?

Taisteal – Did your “Buddy” enjoy star gazing?

Tagann- Which song did the Cubs enjoy the most?



Footprints and tyre tracks left behind by astronauts on the moon will stay there forever as there is no wind to blow them away. Make sure that you Leave No Trace after camp

Astronomy Sites

[Armagh Planetarium, Nth. Ireland.](#)

[Astronomy Ireland Shop, Dublin.](#)

[Birr Telescope and Science Museum, Co. Offaly.](#)

[Blackrock Robotic Observatory, Cork](#)

[Crawford Observator, Cork.](#)

[Dunsink Observatory, Dublin.](#)

[Inishowen Planetarium and Maritime Museum, Donegal.](#)

[Loughcrew \(Witch's Mountain\)](#)

[Schull Planetarium, Co. Cork.](#)

www.explorationdome.ie