

Star Gazing with Your Family

Two of the most wonderful promises from our Heavenly Father to His children are: “I will be with you always” and “I will never leave nor forsake you.” Children like to be with their dad. In that spirit, this workshop is an appeal to dads to be with their kids along with several practical ideas and activities to foster this connection. “I just want to be near you!”

Constellations

“Who made the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the chambers of the south.” (Job 9:9)

“Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades or loose the cords of Orion?” (Job 38:31)

“He who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning and darkens the day into night, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out on the surface of the earth, the LORD is his name.” (Amos 5:8)

Finding north star by first locating the Big Dipper, Ursa Major and following the pointer stars to Polaris, the North Star, which does not appear to move. It appears in the sky at the same latitude from where you are viewing it. It is also the end of the handle for the Little Dipper or Ursa Minor.

You may use the Little Dipper as the hour hand of a clock.

Search for Cassiopeia, since you can see this queen most of the year

Winter constellations are easier to see and more fun.

Orion’s belt points to Sirius the brightest star in the Northern Hemisphere

The best time to star gaze is a new moon(no moon) or a small moon.

There are many apps for smartphones, but for a better perspective, I prefer a **Planisphere**. Rotating paper one like a Glow-in-the-Dark Star Finder with Zodiac Dial. I bought mine for less than \$5.00. Look around at planetariums and museums.

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A green laser pointer is helpful to teach constellations since you can see the beam in the night sky.