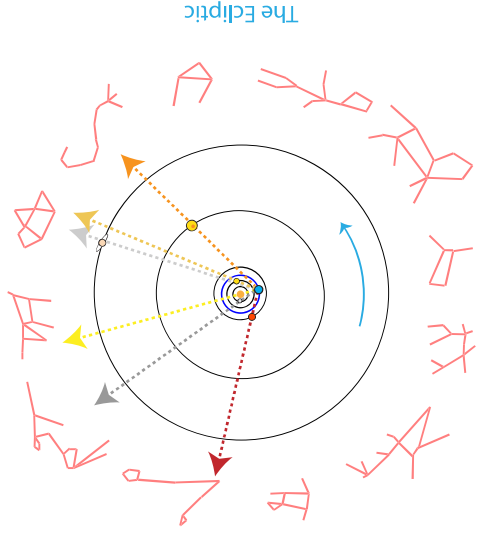


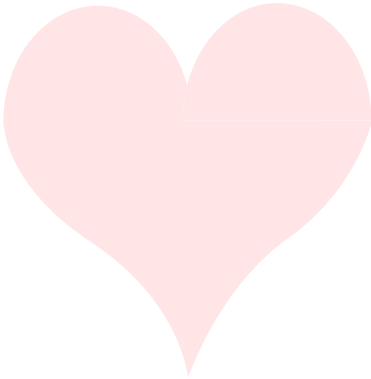
The best way to understand the night sky is through the classical idea of the ecliptic. Earth and the visible planets orbit the Sun in nearly the same plane (the ecliptic plane), and the Moon orbits the Earth in close to the same plane. So we see the Sun, Moon, and planets in nearly one line across the sky (the ecliptic). As the Earth rotates daily, the celestial sphere appears to rotate, and the Sun, Moon, and planets rise and set in sequence along the ecliptic. From the perspective of Earth, the Sun and the visible planets appear to move slowly along the ecliptic through the Zodiac constellations that divide it, with the planets' sequence and apparent motion changing based on where they are in their orbits. Uranus and Neptune are also on the ecliptic, but are not visible to the unaided eye, so the are not shown here.



The Ecliptic

**Inspirational Star Quotes**

- Keep your eyes on the stars and your feet on the ground.  
*Teddy Roosevelt*
- I know nothing with any certainty, but the sight of the stars makes me dream.  
*Vincent Van Gogh*
- Only in the darkness can you see the stars.  
*Martin Luther King Jr.*
- Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet.  
*Stephen Hawking*
- There wouldn't be a sky full of stars if we were all meant to wish on the same one.  
*Frances Clark*



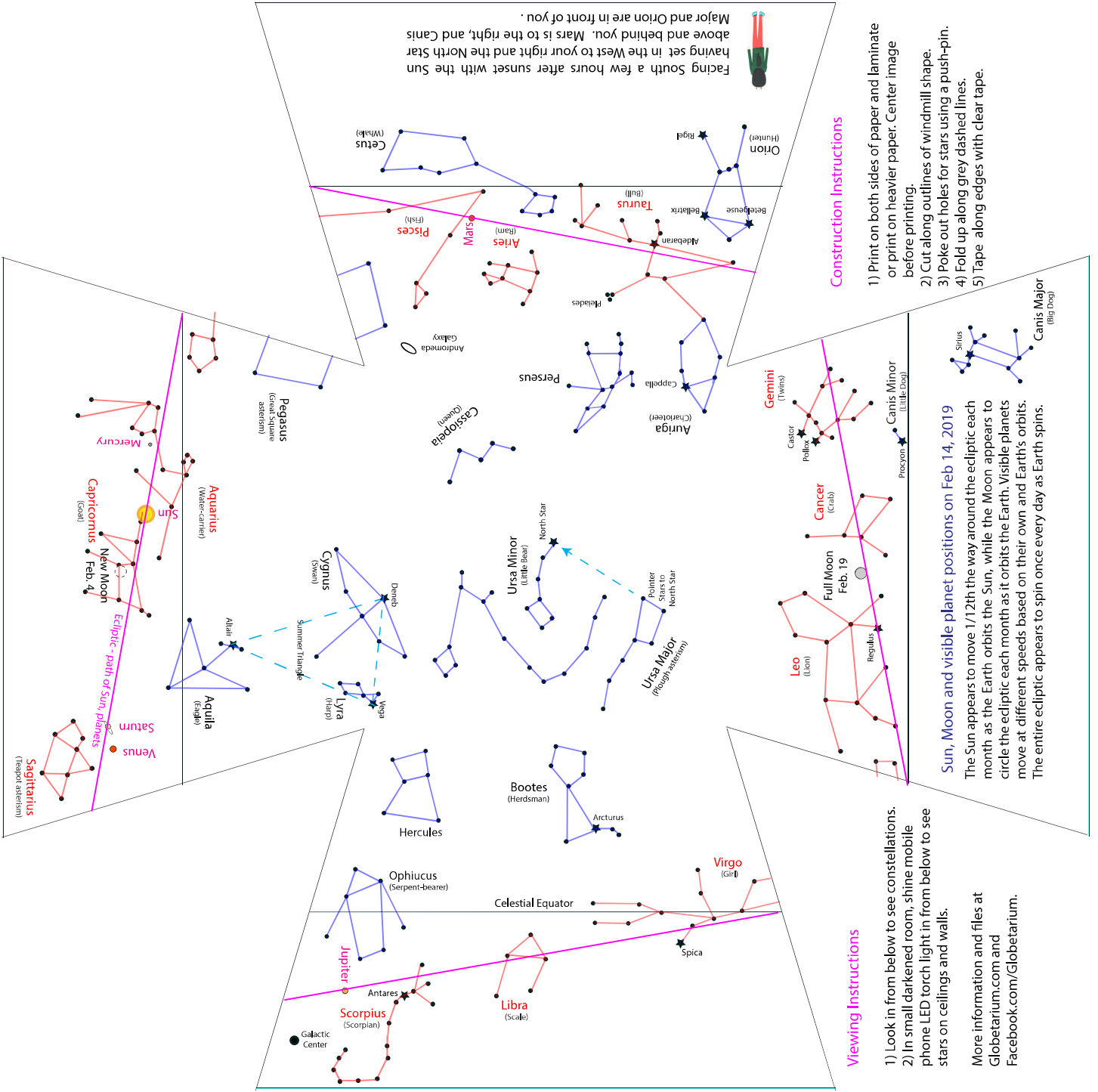
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Know the sky • Know the ecliptic • Know the G



### Viewing Instructions

- 1) Look in from below to see constellations.
- 2) In small darkened room, shine mobile phone LED torch light in from below to see stars on ceilings and walls.

More information and files at [Globetarium.com](http://Globetarium.com) and [Facebook.com/Globetarium](https://www.facebook.com/Globetarium).

### Construction Instructions

- 1) Print on both sides of paper and laminate or print on heavier paper. Center image before printing.
- 2) Cut along outlines of windmill shape.
- 3) Poke out holes for stars using a push-pin.
- 4) Fold up along grey dashed lines.
- 5) Tape along edges with clear tape.

### Sun, Moon and visible planet positions on Feb 14, 2019

The Sun appears to move 1/12th the way around the ecliptic each month as the Earth orbits the Sun, while the Moon appears to circle the ecliptic each month as it orbits the Earth. Visible planets move at different speeds based on their own and Earth's orbits. The entire ecliptic appears to spin once every day as Earth spins.

Facing South a few hours after sunset with the Sun above and behind you, Mars is to the right, and Canis Major and Orion are in front of you.

