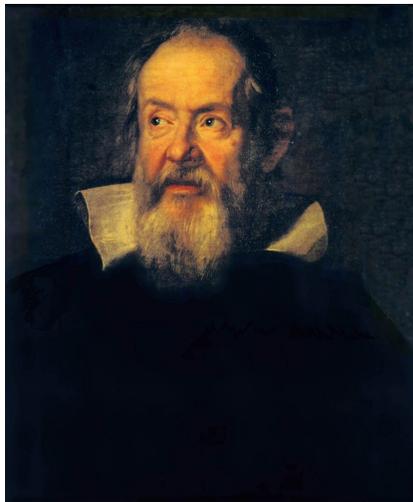


See Science Everywhere (Lesson 3)

Exploring the Night Sky with Galileo

Lesson Overview: In this lesson, students will read a story about the Italian scientist, astronomer, mathematician, and inventor Galileo Galilei. More commonly known as Galileo, was born in 1564 in Pisa, Italy during the Italian Renaissance. Galileo carved out a notable place in history with his development of a telescope that enabled the close observation of the night sky. He was famously imprisoned for his (correct) theory that the sun was at the centre of the universe. After reading the picture book *Starry Messenger*, students will create their own star viewer. They will also have the opportunity to learn more about the constellations with additional activities.



1. **Pre-reading:** Begin by introducing your child to some facts about Galileo. Use one or both of the websites below for biographical information about this fascinating Renaissance man.
 - <https://www.coolkidfacts.com/galileo-facts-for-kids/>
 - https://www.ducksters.com/biography/scientists/galileo_galilei.php
2. **Read:** [*Starry Messenger*](#) by Peter Sis
3. **Watch:** View these short crash course videos that introduce constellations to students new to the world of astronomy:
 - Part 1: [Super Stars \(Constellations\)](#)
 - Part 2: [Constellation Location](#)

4. **Writing Activity:** After reading *Starry Messenger* and watching the videos, have your child write a short reflection about three things they learned. You can help guide them by using the following outline with sentence stems:

Title: “Galileo” or “Constellations” (this can be decided by your student)

I know many things about _____ . (This will be the focus of their reflection.)

First, _____ . (Fact one)

Next, _____ . (Fact two)

Finally, _____ . (Fact three)

As you can see, I know many things about _____ . (This is the same focus as in sentence one.)

5. **Activity:** Follow this link to help your student create their own Star Viewer (pictured below) from Teach Beside Me.

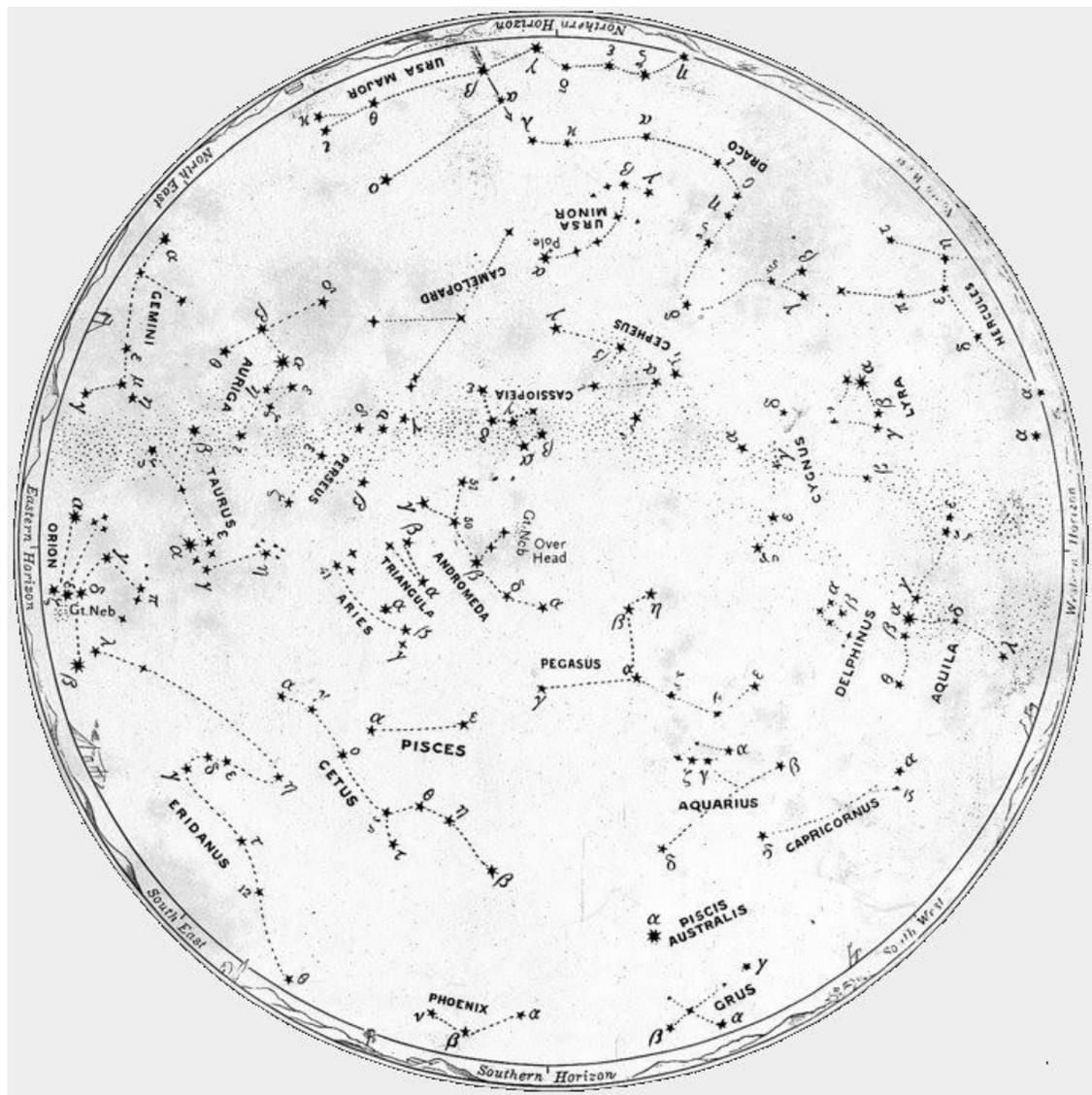
[Star Viewer](#)



6. **Extension Activity:** Plan an evening to stargaze with your student. Make it special by laying out a blanket in the yard, or set up chairs to sit in. You can find a constellation map to help guide your gazing [here](#). See how many constellations your student can identify.

Here are two printable constellation maps:

Autumn Sky



Winter Sky

