Stars
Level H/I

by Kathy Staugler

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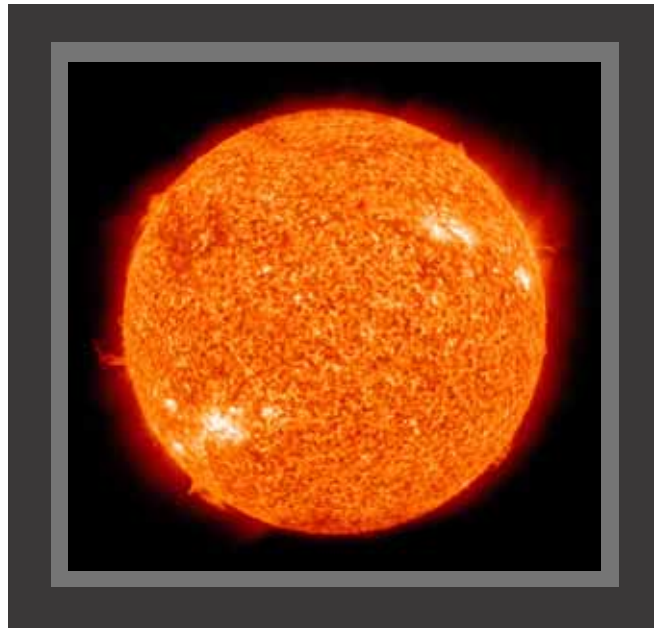
For thousands of years, people have looked at the stars in the night sky. Every night the stars look a little different. Some nights, you can see many stars. Some nights, no stars can be seen.

Scientists have also studied the stars for many years. Scientists help us learn about stars. A **star** is a big ball of dust and gas. This ball of dust and gas spins around, which makes it very hot. The heat makes it glow.
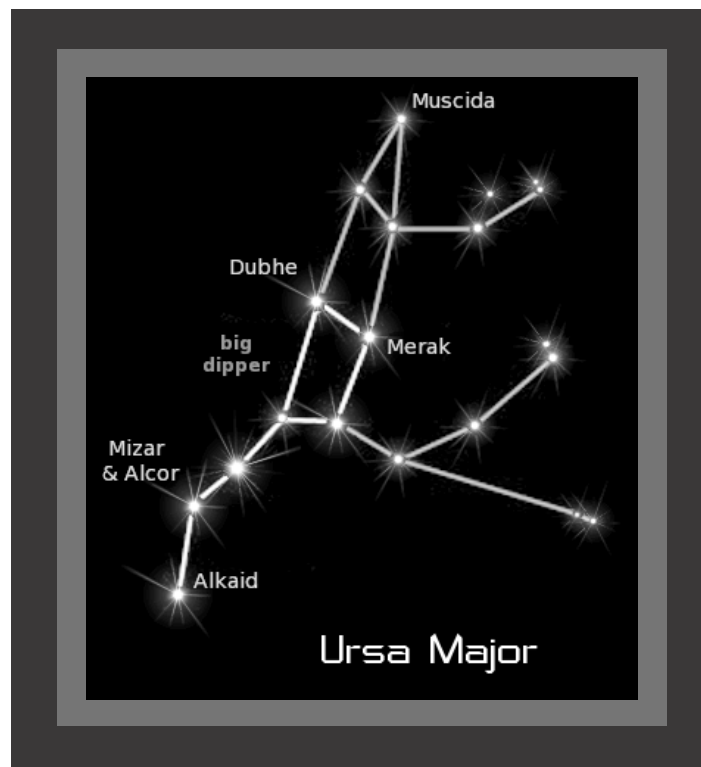
There are millions of stars in the sky. Did you know the Sun is a star? It is the closest star to the Earth. The stars are in the sky in the day and night. During the day, the Sun makes the sky so bright that we cannot see the other stars. At night when the sky is dark, the light of the stars can be seen.

http://www.flagpictures.org/downloads/print/alaska1.jpg

Constellations are pictures made up of bright stars which appear close to each other in the sky. The Big Dipper is a group of stars that looks like a ladle. There are seven stars in the Big Dipper. The flag of the state of Alaska has the Big Dipper on it.

http://www.clipartpal.com/_thumbs/pd/ursa_major_black.png

Another constellation is the Great

Bear. Part of the Great Bear is made with

the stars of the Big Dipper. There is also

a Little Dipper of stars in the sky. Many

groups of stars have names of animals.

People sometimes "wish on a star."

The story says if you wish on a star, your

wish may come true.

"Star light, star bright,

First star I see tonight,

I wish I may, I wish I might,

Have the wish I wish tonight."

Stars

see	hot	star	night	sky	scientist
study	close	dust	gas	sun	Earth
learn	bright	day	light	constellation	Great Bear
spin	dark	Big Dipper	Little Dipper	name	animal
wish		story			

Glossary

star - a big ball of dust and gas

constellation - a picture made up of bright stars which appear close to each other in the sky