

STARS

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Part 1: READ

16:16 النحل	وَعَلَامَاتٍ وَبِالنَّجْمِ هُمْ يَهْتَدُونَ
	And landmarks (too), and by the star they find way. (Picktall)

Part 2: LEARN

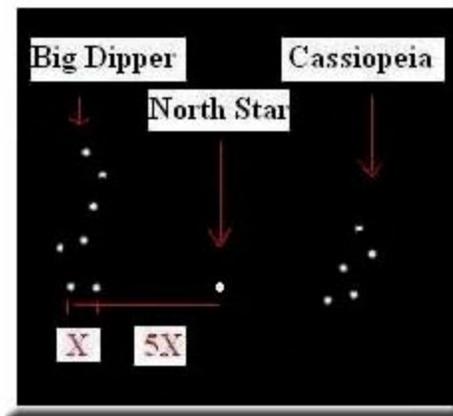
“The Big Dipper:

Because it has seven bright stars, the Big Dipper is easy to find in the night sky. The Little Dipper is harder to see because it's made up of fainter stars.



Polaris

Identify the North Star, which is also known as Polaris and is the end of the handle of the Little Dipper. When you find the North Star, you'll know what direction true north is from your current location. The North Star is about the same brightness as the seven major stars of the Big Dipper. The North Star resides halfway between Cassiopeia and the Big Dipper.



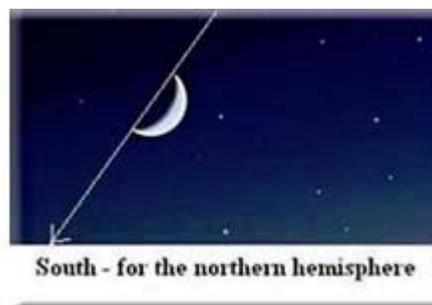
How can I see the Big Dipper?

1. Get to a dark site with no city lights around.
2. Look for the shape of a soup ladle.
3. Three of the stars form a curved handle and the other four stars form a bowl shape.
4. Tilt your head back until you're looking up about 60 degrees and you will plainly see the Big Dipper.

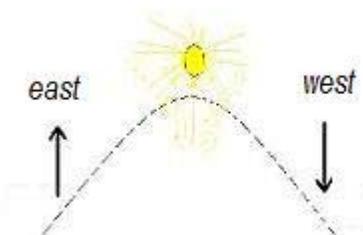
How does it look like?



Finding direction by the moon:



When the sun reaches its highest point at noon, its direction will be either south (northern hemisphere) or north (southern hemisphere). In winter, the sun is lower in the sky so you will notice shadows are long.

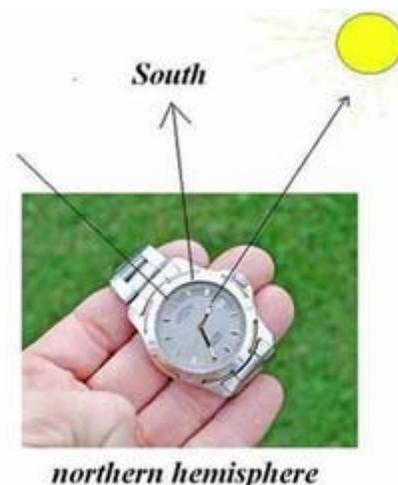


Using a pocket watch:

Only to be used in latitudes between 40 and 60 degrees north or south of the equator.

Point the hour hand directly at the sun and then bisect the angle between the hour hand and twelve o'clock. This imaginary line will run north/south. If you are not sure which end of the line is south, remember that the sun rises in the east, sets in the west and is due south at noon for the northern hemisphere.

If you are in the southern hemisphere you instead point the twelve o'clock mark on the watch towards the sun and then bisect the angle between the hour hand and twelve o'clock. Remember, in the southern hemisphere the sun is due north at noon.”



Finding directions in the southern hemisphere:

You need to make use of the two bright pointer stars and the Cross Constellation.

References:

Wilderness Survival Skills for Safe Wilderness Travel (www.wilderness-survival-skills.com)

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Part 3: THINK & CONNECT

In this age of modern navigational tools, would you still consider “the stars” as an important way of finding directions? Account for your answer.

What kind of world, would we have if all stars suddenly disappear?