**Become a Star Gazer!**

A planisphere (also called a star wheel) is a simple tool to help you see what stars are in the sky at a specific time. To use a planisphere:

- Rotate the wheel in the pocket so that the current time (on the inner ring) lines up with today’s date, shown on the outer ring. (Note that this planisphere does not reflect Daylight Saving Time. If the region you are observing from is using Daylight Saving Time when you are observing, subtract 1 hour from the time shown on the planisphere. For example, if you are observing at 10 PM on June 1 from an area using Daylight Saving Time on that date, line up 9 PM with June 1).
- Face north so that where the sun rises (east) is over your right shoulder and where it sets (west) is over your left shoulder.
- Hold the star wheel above you so that the front label “International Observe the Moon Night” is the right way up.
- Use your flashlight to look at the stars shown in the window. This window represents the stars you will see directly overhead. The stars near the Eastern horizon are those that are just rising and the stars on the Western horizon will soon be setting. Now look into the sky. Can you see any of the bright stars and star formations shown on the chart?

**Instructions to make your own planisphere:**

1. Cut out the star wheel and two (front and back) pocket pieces.
2. Cut out the window on the front pocket piece. Insert the point of the scissors at the label “cut this window out,” then cut outwards until you reach the solid line and then follow the solid line.
3. Fold the edge tabs on the front pocket piece back along the dashed lines. Slide the back pocket piece into the front piece until it stops.
4. Tape or glue the back pocket piece to the front pocket piece. Be careful not to tape past the end of the tabs.
5. Slide the star wheel into the completed pocket so that the stars show through the window.
6. Push a brad or pin through the cross in the center of the wheels and push it through to the other side.
7. Secure the pieces by folding the brad, or push a piece of string through the hole and tie little knots in the ends to hold the pieces together.
8. The final product.

**To assemble and use this planisphere, you will need:**

- scissors
- tape or glue
- brad or pin & string
- flashlight

**Hint:** Use a rubber band to cover the front of your flashlight with a piece of red cellophane. The glare of the bright light will be less making it easier to see.