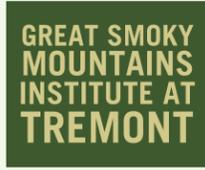


Starry

Lenoir City Intermediate/Middle School, TN



Watch Now

The Great Smoky Mountains are a wonderful place to stargaze. With little to no light pollution in the park, visitors can see many constellations and note how they change throughout the seasons. This change is due to the Earth's orbit around the sun, and the solar system's orbit within the Milky Way Galaxy. Students who live in urban areas can advocate reducing light pollution, or designating areas and times to turn off lights and observe the night sky.

EARTH & SPACE SCIENCE

5.ESS1.4	Explain the cause and effect relationship between the positions of the sun, earth, and moon and resulting eclipses, position of constellations, and appearance of the moon.
5.ESS1.6	Use tools to describe how stars and constellations appear to move from the Earth's perspective throughout the seasons.

Put your mind back in time:
 The night sky, there's no reason or rhyme
 Just twinkling lights, and you are wondering
 why
 This how it was for the early human mind
 The celestial sphere, you connect the dots
 Make your mind a picture out of something
 that's not

Really there, but you stare and stare
 Chinese, Hindu, Australian Aboriginal
 Old Babylonian from Sumerian
 Ancient Egyptian, indigenous Greece
 To the Roman times, still wondering why
 Early civilizations, making constellations
 Why is the sky so dark with brilliant points of
 light
 10,000 strong, they fill up the night
 But no method known to shed some light
 We're left in the dark still wondering why

Look for patterns in the night
 Make a picture with your mind
 Create a story about the lights
 Cultural knowledge of the sky

CHORUS

We've got Orion shining, his belt all aglow
 Or how about Ursa Major, the one we all know
 Cassiopeia, the vain queen, she sits in her chair
 You'll want to know all the stars, we're looking
 as the earth spins on

Up there is Cygnus, fair swan, the Northern
 Cross

Or how about Leo, lion, he's so ferocious
 And then there is Taurus, great bull, riding the
 sky

You'll want to know all the stars, we're looking
 as the earth spins on

So from the bronze age to Ptolemy
 A Roman man in Egypt, second century
 Recorded the shapes, came up with forty eight
 But only from the stars that he could see
 Up in the Northern Hemisphere, but have no
 fear

The Age of Exploration, the Dutch would steer
 Their ships to the south and see a sky
 On which the western world had never laid an
 eye

And we arrive to the modern times
 Our planetary window into the night
 Based on the patterns seen by the ancient
 minds

A celestial connection through human time

Identify the patterns in the night
 Record the date and time
 Share the knowledge and refine
 This is how we mapped the sky

CHORUS

Eighty-eight official constellations now
 A grid mapped out by stars all around
 Far and near, millions of light years
 Away from us and still we see
 The shapes of dreams: hunters, swans and
 kings

A canvas to contemplate the meaning of being
 And here's a fact to blow your mind
 Constellations change as stars move through
 time

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