



Original Constellation  
&  
Nighttime Poetry  
by the  
Creative Landscapes  
Learning Center  
Students

## In The Night Sky

Stars glow like midnight lanterns lighting  
pictures once hidden in storybooks where  
Phoenix flies faster than the winged horse,  
pictures where centaurs run alongside bears.

-- Max

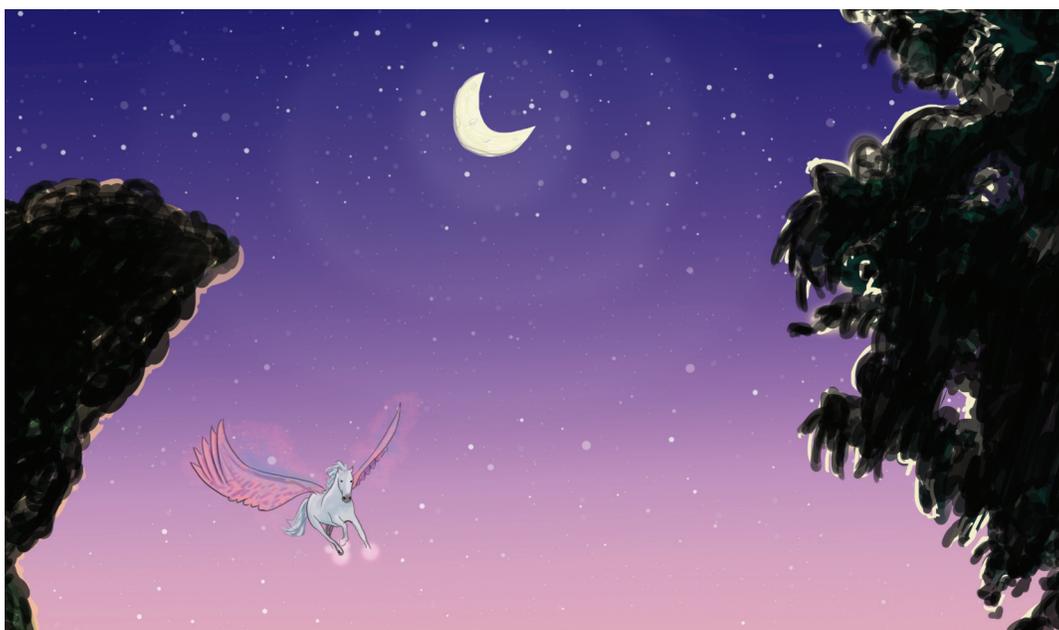


Illustration by Jude Shingle  
*Christopher Counts The Constellations*  
by Mary Arete Moodey

## Moon

Moon high out of reach,  
silver moonlight guiding  
nighttime travelers.  
Weightless floating objects  
bouncing on the moon's face  
like stones skipping on a pond.

-- Max

## I Imagined I Was A Horse (A Story)

One night, I was looking out the window, and I saw a constellation that looked like the sun. It was a circle with lines all around it, and it was yellow. The moon was yellow that night.

And, then, I looked out the window and saw a constellation of a person riding a horse. I imagined I was on the horse. We flew to the moon.

-- Elaina



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### The Moon

The moon is bright  
like a light in the sky.  
The full moon looks like  
a scoop of vanilla ice cream.  
When the night is done  
the moon melts.

-- Addy

### Dream

I was up in the moon  
and saw planets and craters,  
and I saw lots of stars.

--Evie

Asleep

When everyone  
was asleep  
I counted stars.

-- Evie



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Polaris\_courtesy of nasa.gov

The Little Star

I am a star around space  
I rotate around the galaxy.  
I shine and sparkle  
with the other stars in space.

-- Zara

A Star

I am a star  
I am as bright as light.  
I live in space  
and float like a balloon.

-- Bella



Arcturus star in Bootes  
constellationwww.earthsky.org

## Dreaming

I was dreaming.  
My snake snuggled in my arms  
stretches like a cheetah  
ready to pounce on its prey.

-- Jonah



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## Kuiper's Belt

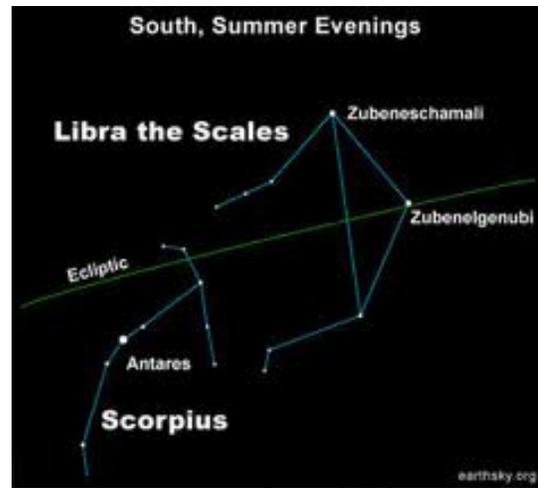
Kuiper's Belt starts with K  
like my name Kayden.  
Kuiper's Belt lives away far away --  
as far as our galaxy.  
Kuiper's Belt is like a tool belt  
holding planets and stars.  
Kuiper rhymes with viper,  
a viper is a snake.  
Kuiper is curled up  
like me when I'm in bed.

-- Kaden

## Fireworks

I am a star,  
a star as bright  
as a ball of gas.  
I am a star  
as beautiful as fireworks  
exploring the summer sky.  
I am Lizzy  
as smart as Libra  
balancing stars.

-- Lizzy

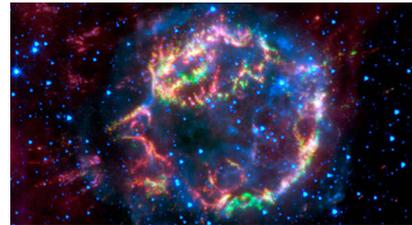


courtesy of earth/sky.org

## Astronaut

The astronaut is floating in space.  
He sees a supernova star.  
He sees the Milky Way  
and feels awesome.

-- Jonas



credit: NASA/JPL-  
Caltech/Univ. of Minn.

## Garrett

Garrett is a galaxy, a Milky Way  
**A** spiral spinning  
**R**ound and  
**R**ound in a circle  
**E**xploding like old stars  
**T**errifying like  
**T**igers catching its prey.

-- Garrett



Milky Way\_courtesy of  
[www.windows2universe.org](http://www.windows2universe.org)

## Shadows Tiptoeing

When my grandpa  
was dying, lying sick  
as a nightmare.  
His eyes closed and opened.  
When his eyes opened  
he saw shadows tiptoeing by.  
And then his eyes closed forever.

--Audrey



photo by  
Mary Arete Moodey

## Night Shadows

At night, shadows scare me,  
the shadows on my one huge window.  
The shadows creep into my room  
and I cannot sleep,  
but I leave them alone.  
When the sun comes up  
it twirls like a ballerina  
and the shadows go away.

-- Xio

## Bella Means Beautiful

My mom and dad named me Bella.  
Bella means beautiful like the stars  
shining at night -- stars of gold and yellow.  
They remind me of my grandma  
who died, but I don't know why.  
My grandma was as bright as Arcturus.

-- Bella



Arcturus in Bootes constellation\_  
[www.outerspaceuniverse.org](http://www.outerspaceuniverse.org)

**Aubrey**

**A**rcturus is a very bright star,  
as bright as my chickens' eyes lighting  
**U**p. Arcturus dazzles like the sun  
**B**elow Draco, the Dragon, breathing  
**R**oaring fire  
**E**verywhere, reflecting in my chickens' eyes,  
chickens flapping wings  
**Y**elling.

-- Aubrey

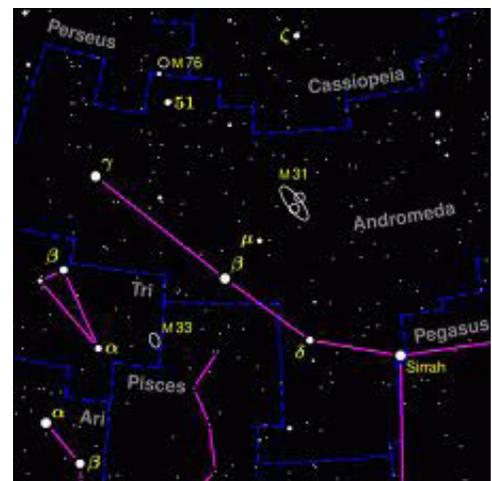


[Draco\\_en.wikipedia.org/wiki](http://Draco_en.wikipedia.org/wiki)

**Andromeda**

**A**ndromeda is a princess.  
She is as beautiful as a rose.  
So am I.  
**A** is for my name too.  
**A**ndromeda is a constellation.

-- Audrey



courtesy of [ons.wikimedia.org](http://ons.wikimedia.org)

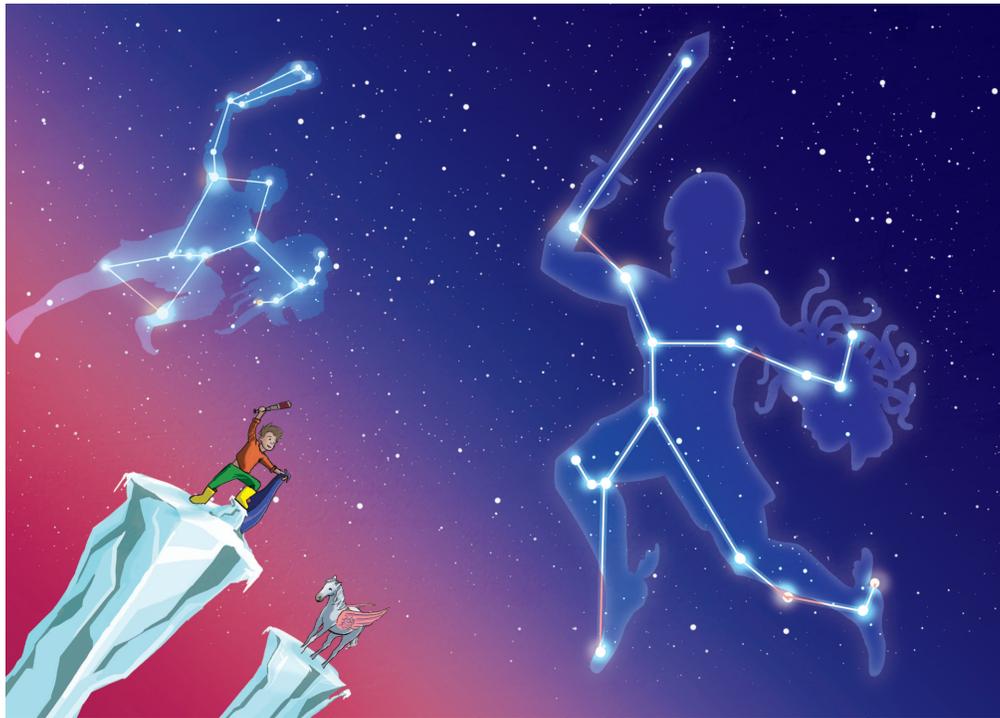


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courtesy of earth/sky.org

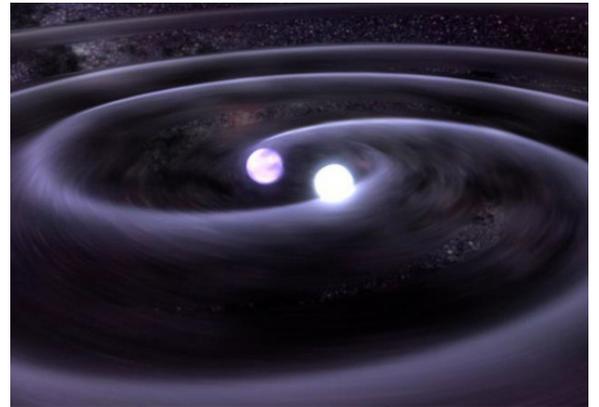
## Orion

Orion, the hunter,  
 is a pattern of stars.  
 We see him standing  
 on his hot, blinding feet.  
 But, in Australia  
 he's like my sister  
 cartwheeling on her head.

-- Alexander



courtesy of ons.wikimedia.org



Binary Stars\_courtesy of nasa.gov

**Z**ara

**Z** is for Zodiac Belt.  
**A** is for constellations  
**R**oaming around the Earth.  
**A** is for my arms protecting my family.  
My family is like stars in constellations.

-- Zara



Earth\_courtesy of nasa.gov

## Alexander

- A** stands for Andromeda, a princess of stars.
- L** stands for Leo, a lion roaring at Andromeda, a princess of stars.
- E** stands for the eyes looking at Leo, a lion roaring at Andromeda, a princess of stars.
- X** stands for Xi, a binary star like the eyes looking at Leo, a lion roaring at Andromeda, a princess of stars.
- A** stands for Arcturus, a star brighter than Xi, a binary star like the eyes looking at Leo, a lion roaring at Andromeda, a princess of stars.
- N** stands for Neptune, a cold planet far from Arcturus, a star brighter than Xi, a binary star like the eyes looking at Leo, a lion roaring at Andromeda, a princess of stars.
- D** stands for Draco, a dragon breathing fire at Neptune, a cold planet far from Arcturus, a star brighter than Xi, a binary star like the eyes looking at Leo, a lion roaring at Andromeda, a princess of stars.
- E** stands for Earth, far from Draco, a dragon breathing fire at Neptune, a cold planet far from Arcturus, a star brighter than Xi, a binary star looking at Leo, a lion roaring at Andromeda, a princess of stars.
- R** stands for Rigel, a star below Andromeda, the princess of stars.

-- Alexander

## Telescope

I see planets floating by  
like bubbles circling in the air.  
My eyes are telescopes  
seeing things close up,  
as close as I want them to be.  
I see planets floating in the sky.

-- Kylie



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## Mars

Ice caps to north and south,  
freezing, chilling.  
It feels smooth  
but filled with bumps  
Not  
sizzling, boiling  
like bacon in a pan.

-- Emily



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If

If you could stand on Saturn  
you could play hockey on the rings  
and make a yellow cloud.

-- Max

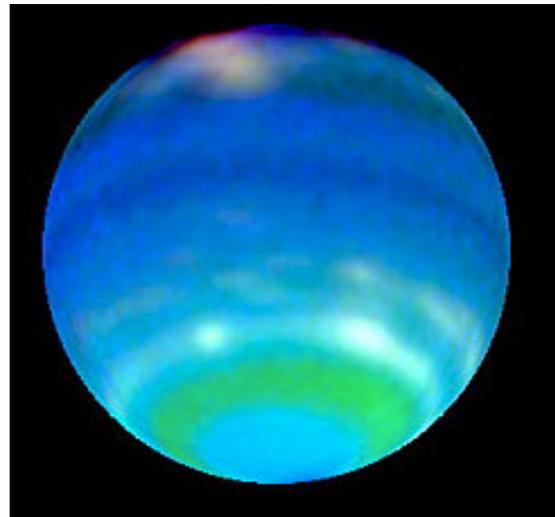


Saturn\_courtesy of en.wiki.org

Neptune

Neptune looks like a disco ball,  
it shines different colors.  
It's very windy  
and has lots of gas.  
If I was on that planet  
my hair would blow.  
Some winds blow  
at 1,250 miles an hour.

-- Kylie



courtesy of www.nasa.org

An Image

Wynn --  
I'm fast  
like the wind blowing  
my hair.

-- Wynn



Jupiter\_ en.wikipedia.org

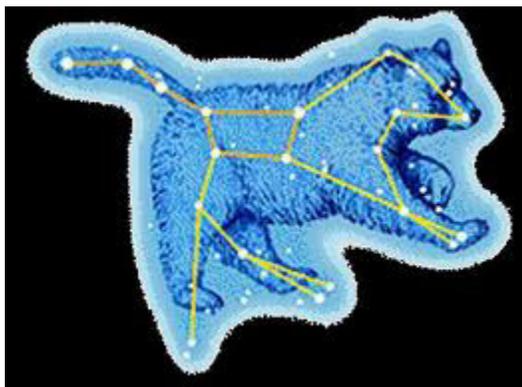
Joshua

Once, when I played soccer and kicked the ball so hard, it bounced off **Jupiter** and soared over **Orion**. It slid around **Saturn's** rings and bounced on a **Horse's** head and under **Ursa Major** and **Andromeda**, then collapsed to Earth.



photo by Mary Arete Moodey

-- Joshua



Ursa Major\_courtesy of en.wikipedia.org

Fact

The Earth spins around the sun. It takes a year to run around the sun.

-- Elaina

## I Am

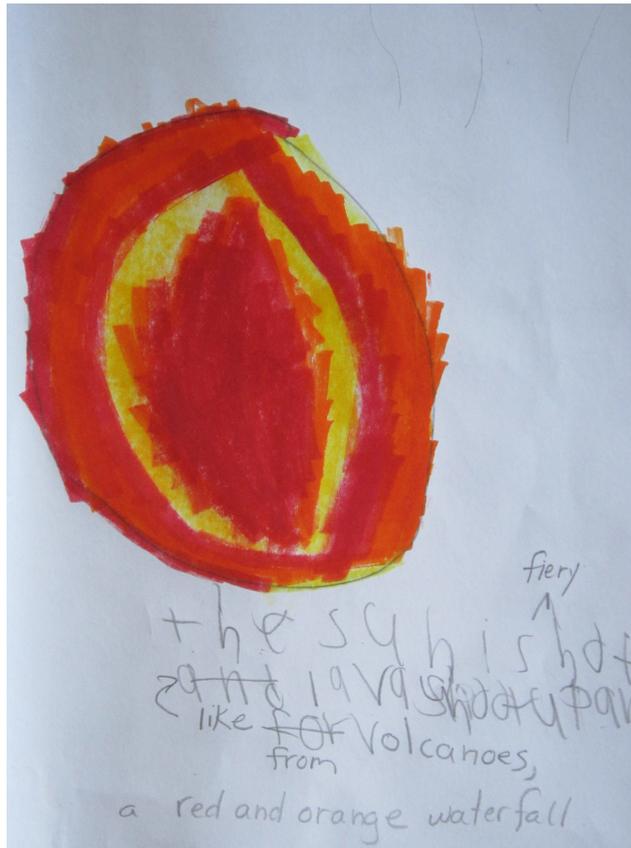
I am the sun  
I am hot  
I am a yellow star  
I am a beautiful star.

-- Addy

## The Sun

The sun is fiery hot  
like lava shooting up and out  
from volcanoes,  
a red and orange waterfall.

-- Garrett



Sun by Garrett

## Morning Rise

When I rise in the morning  
I wake Bella  
I shine down on her  
It makes her feel happy!

-- Addy

## A Question

How would you walk on the sun,  
a big burning ball of gas?  
You would need special glasses  
so your eyes would not be burnt  
or blinded like Medusa  
in a single glance and then killed.  
You would need special shoes  
of ice -- ice that never melts.

-- Melanie



Medussa by Caravaggio (1573-1610)  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medusa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medusa)

## The Binoculars

I look around and see  
a lion lying in the mid-day sun  
giving himself a bath.  
I see everything around me  
like the guard guarding Hector's cave;  
nothing can surprise me.  
I know what happens behind me.  
I know what other people say  
because I can look  
every way!

-- Melanie



courtesy of pelion.org



Leo\_courtesy of en.wiki.org



photo by Mary Arete Moodey

## Clouds

I long to drift  
among the clouds  
and bounce off  
their fluffy white bodies.

-- Melanie



Milky Way\_courtesy of nasa.gov



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The Learning Center



An independent elementary school dedicated to fostering natural curiosity, individuality, academic achievement, and creative expression.

The students from the Creative Landscapes Learning Center used *Christopher Counts The Constellations* as a classroom resource for space, story, poetry, and the magic of their names.