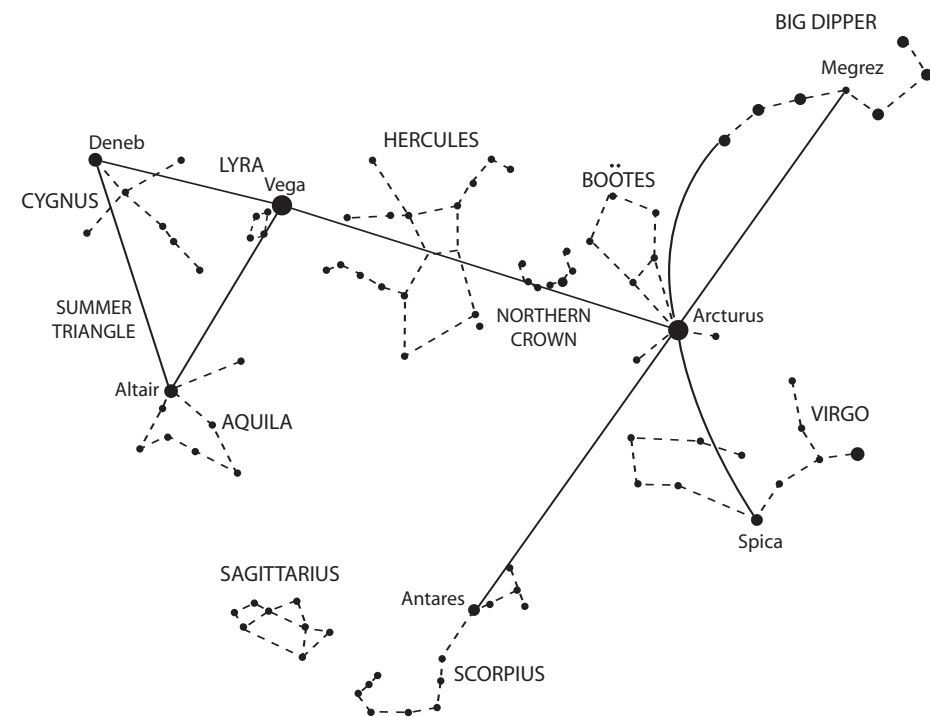


Sky Guide



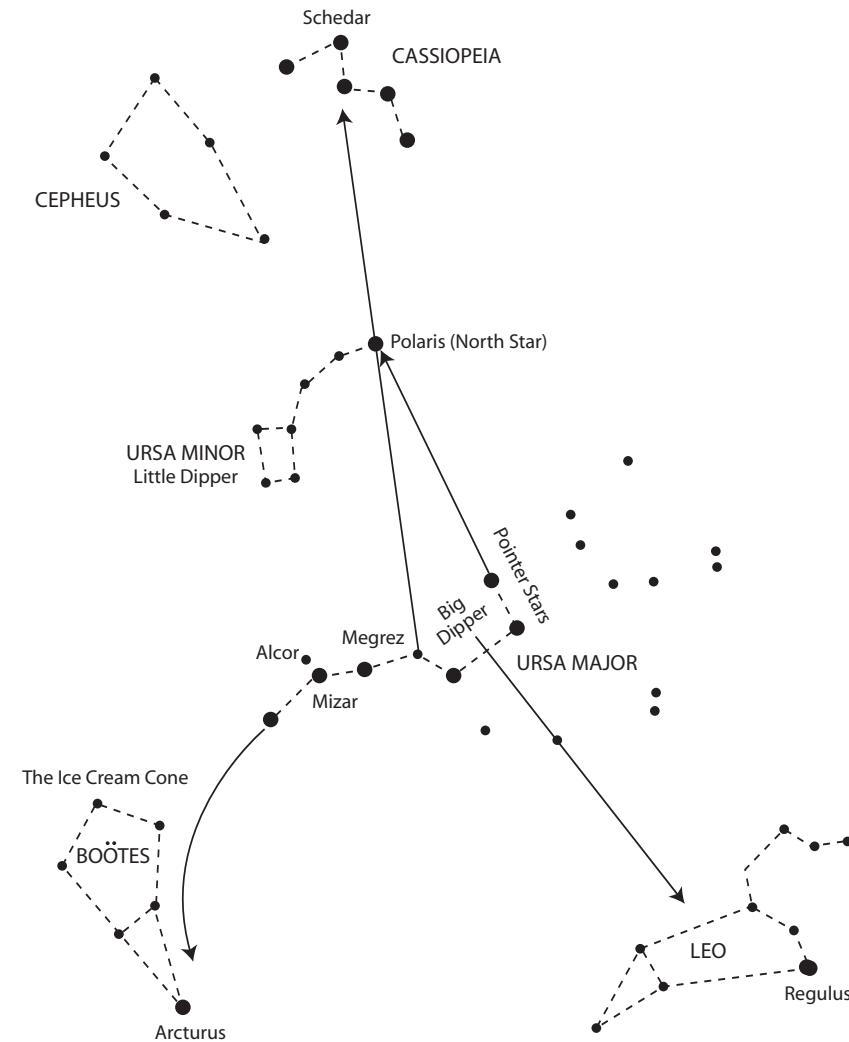
Using Arcturus as a Sky Guide



EVENING SKIES IN THE SUMMER

- Follow Megrez in the BIG DIPPER to Arcturus and Antares
- Find the ice cream cone in Boötes
- BIG DIPPER's handle leads to Arcturus, then to Spica
- Deneb, Vega and Altair form the Summer Triangle
- Follow Vega through the belly of HERCULES to Arcturus

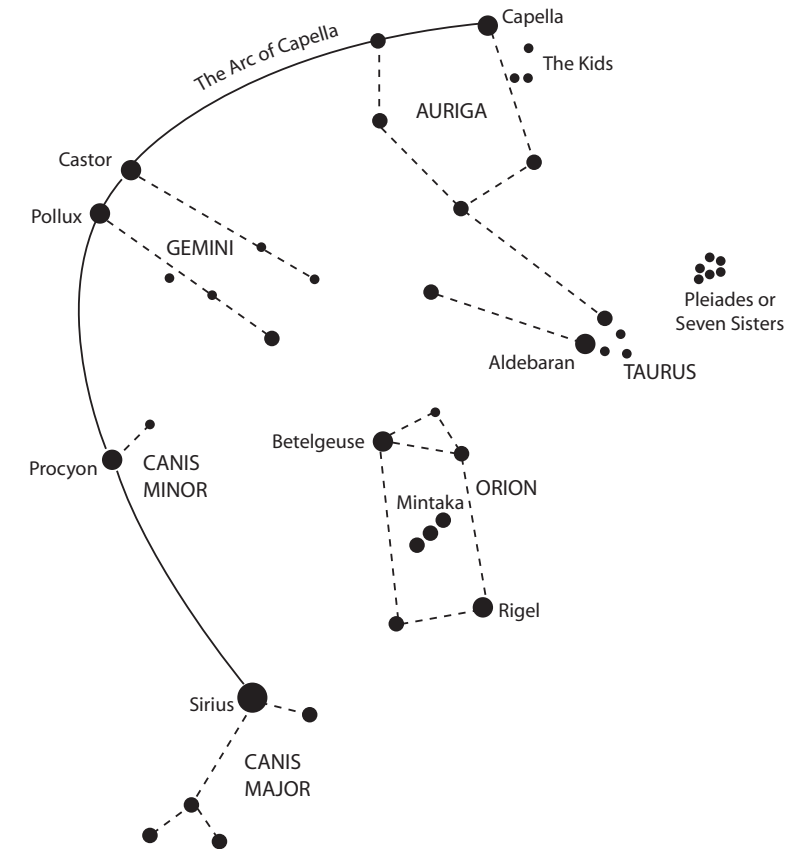
Using the Big Dipper as a Sky Guide



LOOKING TO THE NORTH FOR THE DIPPERS

- The pointer stars point to Polaris
- The arc of the handle leads to Arcturus
- A hole in the cup empties on LEO's back
- Megrez and Polaris point to CASSIOPEIA

Using Orion as a Sky Guide



EVENING SKIES IN WINTER

- Five bright stars form the Arc of Capella
- Up Orion's belt to TAURUS and Pleiades
- Down Orion's belt to Sirius

The Planetarium at Mystic Seaport®

The Planetarium at Mystic Seaport offers daily programs to acquaint visitors with the stars, planets and constellations of the nighttime sky. These programs help visitors understand how mariners use the sun and stars to determine directions and position at sea.

Second only to the compass in its association with navigation is the sextant. Sextants and octants were developed in about 1731 and have since provided an accurate method of measuring angles such as that between the sun and the horizon. In compliance with

their instructions from President Thomas Jefferson, Lewis and Clark used both a mariner's sextant and an octant (also called a Hadley's Quadrant) for determining the latitudes and longitudes of significant geographical features they encountered on their journey.

At the Planetarium at Mystic Seaport, you can try a sextant yourself. Or, on certain days, you can view the planet Venus from a telescope on the Village Green. You'll also have a chance to see a nautical sundial and the workings of our 147-year-old church tower clock. You also have the chance to learn about clouds, the weather and even how to use a slide rule.

In addition, the Planetarium at Mystic Seaport offers courses in navigation. Learn more about these programs, and sign up for our daily compilation of weather forecasts, tide tables, storm alerts, tropical updates and monthly astronomy notes by emailing planetarium@mysticseaport.org.



For more information call

860.572.0711, ext. 5151

email: planetarium@mysticseaport.org

<http://www.mysticseaport.org/planetarium>

Mystic Seaport – *The Museum of America and the Sea* – is the nation's leading maritime museum. Discover American maritime history firsthand as you climb aboard historic tall ships, stroll through a re-created 19th-century coastal village, visit with a character from 1876, explore exhilarating exhibits or watch our working preservation shipyard in action. Get out on the water (seasonal) and explore the historic Mystic River or participate in hands-on activities for kids of all ages.