

Star Map Treasure Hunt

This treasure hunt page is designed to be used with the star charts available in the Sky & Telescope magazine. Your task is to use the map and find the following treasures in the night sky:

1. The dates your map is useful for (Look under the red word "WHEN").
2. Find the following:
 - a. The cardinal points: north, south, east, west.
 - b. The North Star – Polaris.
 - c. The Big Dipper (Ursa Major).
 - d. The line labeled "Ecliptic".
 - e. The line labeled "Equator".
3. The point labeled "Zenith". Where is it on the map?

4. The constellation Cygnus. What direction is it on the map? (overhead, southeast, north, etc.) _____
5. The constellation HERCULES. How many stars does it have?

6. The constellation SAGITTARIUS. Where is it in relation to the line labeled "Ecliptic"? _____
7. The constellation PEGASUS. What is special about the shape of this constellation? _____

Using the key to symbols in the lower left corner of the map, near the word SOUTH, find the following items on the map:

8. Two globular clusters (hint: look near SAGITTARIUS)
9. One galaxy (hint: look near ANDROMEDA, URSA MINOR and URSA MAJOR)
10. One open cluster (hint: look near CEPHUS and CASSIOPEIA)
11. Three diffuse nebulas (hint: look near SAGITTARIUS)
12. How many planetary nebula can you find? What constellations are they in or near? _____
13. How many double stars can you find? What constellations are they in or near?

14. In or near what constellation(s) can you find any variable stars?

15. Are any planets visible on your map? What constellations are they in or near?

