


# City Stargazing



Do you ever  
look up and  
wonder at  
the twinkling  
stars?

People have always marvelled at the night sky. On a clear night, in a dark place, you can see planets, thousands of stars, and the faint wisps of light that are our galaxy, the Milky Way. The light from towns and cities makes it harder to make out the stars. But that doesn't mean we can't stargaze. Let's explore some constellations in the night sky.

## Safety

- Make sure you take an adult outside with you
- Remember to wrap up warm

## When and where

- Wait until a little after the Sun sets so it's dark enough to see the stars
- Pick a spot outside where you can see the most sky, away from streetlights, and without branches or other houses in the way
- Stand there for a little while and let your eyes get adjusted to the dark

## Pictures in the stars

- When you look at the sky you can make shapes and drawings with the stars, it's like playing connect the dots!
- Astronomers – scientists who study space – have agreed on 88 official star patterns. We call these official patterns "constellations"



## Sept to Nov - Andromeda

**Andromeda, the chained princess constellation, is visible from August to February, though it's best seen during the Autumn months.**



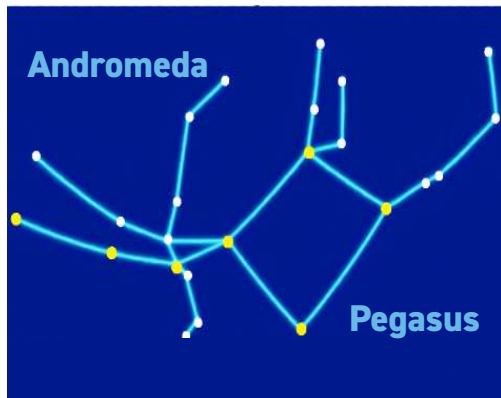
1. To find Andromeda, first locate four bright stars in a large square shape. The Great Square fills a large portion of sky in the Autumn months. It makes the horse's body in constellation Pegasus.



2. Next, look for three bright stars in a line to the left of Pegasus.



3. Finally, find the sideways **V** shape of stars that makes up Andromeda's body and head. On a clear night, you might be able to make out the dimmer stars in her arms too.



Multiple cultures recognised this constellation as a female figure. For instance, the ancient Greeks linked the constellation with the chained princess Andromeda, and the Mesopotamians associated the constellation with their goddess of Chaos.



**What do you think the constellation looks like?**



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