



Activity 4: Project

Find True North using the stars

Location: Northern hemisphere

To find Polaris, look for **The Plough** constellation, (never far from overhead), spot the pointer stars, note the distance between them, then move your eye five times this distance away in that direction (see below) to see the North Star, Polaris. It isn't very bright but it is special: to find True North simply find Polaris.

Polaris
(The North Star)

Estimate five pointer-star distances

The Plough
(Never far from over-head)

Pointer stars

Covid 19 Discipline

OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCE

Beavers/ Cubs:
Must be with responsible adult

Scouts/ Explorers:
Parents must be informed.
Work with a friend.

Also:

Search Google to learn which planets are in the sky.....and then find one.

Which planet did you find?

Imagine a line going through our South and North poles and shooting off north into space (see diagram). Navigators want that line to hit a star. As luck would have it, the line touches a medium bright star named Polaris. Navigators need only find Polaris to know the direction of True North.

All other stars seem to move around Polaris, but to us, Polaris is fixed in the heavens.

