



**Baltimore Woods  
Nature Center**  
*Nature in your hands*

# Night Sky Gazing

Have you ever looked up and wondered what was out there in the night sky? For centuries many of us have. A sky full of stars can be one of the most magical things to see in the universe.

This week try to get outside at night to a place that does not have a lot of light and look up. How many stars do you see? Try to find the north star, also known as Polaris, as you look up. Polaris is the very last star in the handle of the Little Dipper (Ursa Minor) constellation. It is brighter than all of the other stars around it.

Can you find any other constellations in the sky? Like the Big Dipper (Ursa Major), Cassiopeia, Cepheus, and Draco? If you need a hand there are many constellation apps that you can use to help you locate these constellations and many more! Two of the many constellation apps you can try are SkyView Lite and Star Walk 2 (both are available for Apple and Android). Many constellations have stories behind them, look up some of these stories to learn more about the constellations you find.

