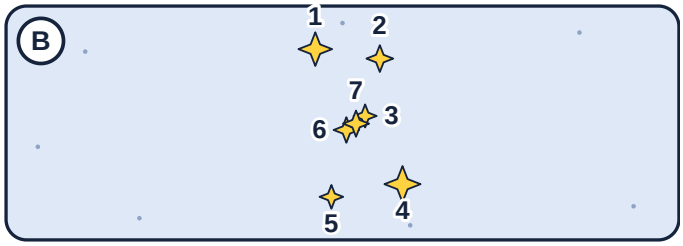
 Name _____ Date _____

Star patterns: the Big Dipper and other constellations

For students: connect the numbered stars in order to draw each star pattern. Then write its name on the line. Use the word bank. Then answer the questions.



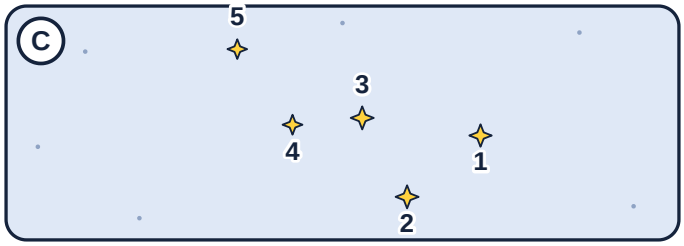
1 to 7, then 7 to 4



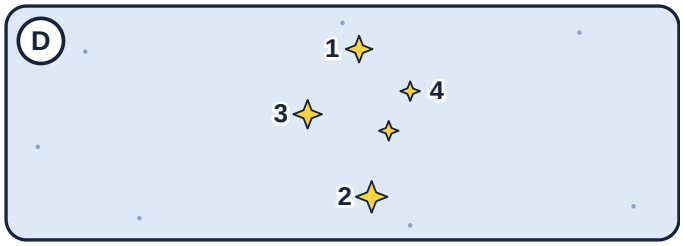
1 to 6 and back to 1, then the belt: 3, 7, 6

A _____

B _____



1 to 5



1 to 2, then 3 to 4

C _____

D _____

Word bank Big Dipper Cassiopeia Orion Southern Cross

Answer the questions

1. The two stars at the end of the Big Dipper's cup point to which star? _____

2. The Big Dipper is part of which constellation? _____

3. Which star pattern looks like the letter W? _____

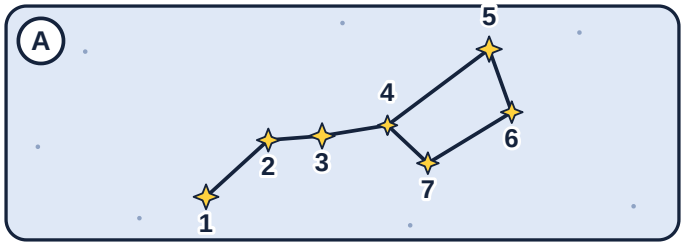
4. Which star pattern helps people in the Southern Hemisphere find south? _____

5. Why do the stars seem to move across the sky during the night? _____

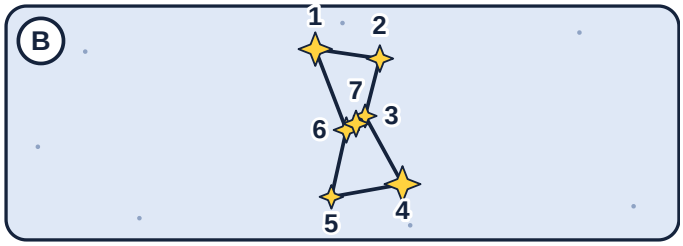
The stars are drawn as they look in the sky, with north at the top. The patterns are not to the same scale. The Big Dipper and Cassiopeia are best seen from the Northern Hemisphere, the Southern Cross from the Southern Hemisphere, and Orion from both. Source: NASA Science, What is the North Star and how do you find it? (science.nasa.gov/solar-system/what-is-the-north-star-and-how-do-you-find-it).

 Name _____ Date _____

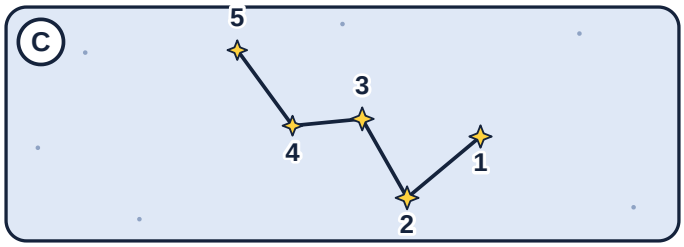
Answer key: star patterns: the Big Dipper and other constellations



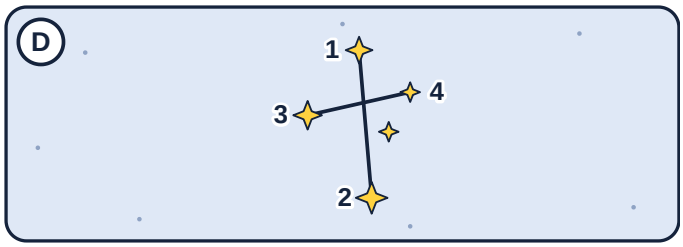
A **Big Dipper**



B **Orion**



C **Cassiopeia**



D **Southern Cross**

Answer the questions

1. The two stars at the end of the Big Dipper's cup point to which star?
The North Star (Polaris)

2. The Big Dipper is part of which constellation? **Ursa Major (the Great Bear)**

3. Which star pattern looks like the letter W? **Cassiopeia**

4. Which star pattern helps people in the Southern Hemisphere find south? **The Southern Cross**

5. Why do the stars seem to move across the sky during the night? **Because Earth rotates (spins).**

The stars are drawn as they look in the sky, with north at the top. The patterns are not to the same scale. The Big Dipper and Cassiopeia are best seen from the Northern Hemisphere, the Southern Cross from the Southern Hemisphere, and Orion from both. Source: NASA Science, What is the North Star and how do you find it? (science.nasa.gov/solar-system/what-is-the-north-star-and-how-do-you-find-it).