

MAKE YOUR VERY OWN STAR PROJECTOR



While you might not be outdoors to see the night sky, you can still sleep under the stars by making your very own star projector in just 4 simple steps. Get crafty before Fort Night to light up your room with any constellation of your choice.

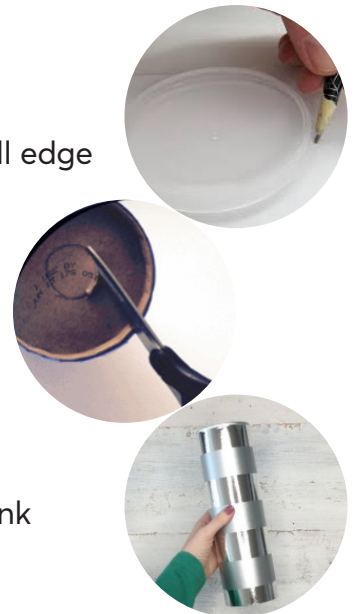
A constellation is a group of stars that make up a pattern. There are lots of constellations, 88 in fact! Some are more famous than others like Orion's Belt, Hercules, and the Plough and most are named after mystical gods, hunters, princesses, and beasts that all originate from the old stories of Greece.

What you'll need -

1. A circular container with a lid (an old crisp tube, coffee or ice-cream tub would be perfect)
2. Some cardboard (cereal boxes work great!)
3. Any decorative craft items you'd like to use to jazz up your projector
4. A star constellation map – use one of our examples or even create your very own!
5. A torch or phone light
6. A pair of scissors

STEP 1 - PREPARE YOUR CONTAINER

- Take your container lid and draw a circle in the centre leaving a small edge and the outer lip to make sure that it will fit back on your container securely.
- Take your torch and trace around it on the bottom of your container, if you do not have a torch you can use a phone light - just draw a smaller circle instead. Once you have drawn your circle cut it out using scissors or a craft knife.
- Remove any labels or outer packaging so you are left with a nice blank canvas to decorate.

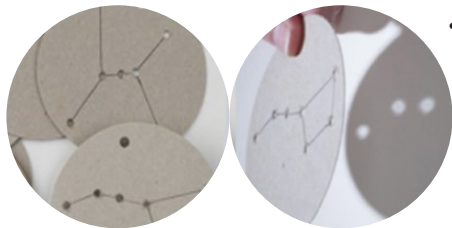
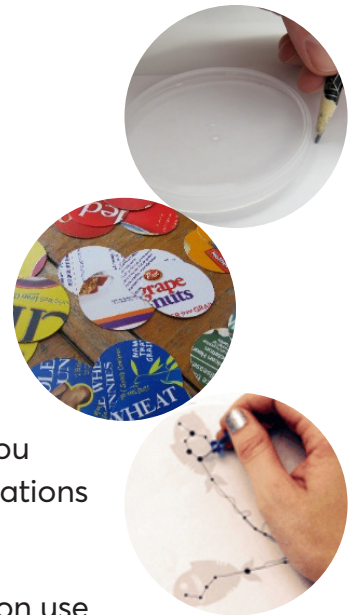


STEP 2 - GET CREATIVE

- Take your container and decorate the outer shell however you like, just make sure that the lid can still be taken on and off easily.

STEP 3 - CREATE YOUR CONSTELLATION

- Draw a circle around your container lid on to a piece of cardboard and cut out, the cardboard circle should now fit neatly inside your container lid.
- If you would like to have more than one star constellation you will need to cut out more than one circle.
- On the plain side of your cardboard circles draw the constellations you would like to project. You can find some examples of famous constellations online or create your own.



- Once you have drawn your constellation use a small pin, pen or sharp pencil to pierce each dot and make a small hole. This will let the light through when it's all put together.

STEP 4 - PUT IT TOGETHER AND LET YOUR STARS SHINE BRIGHT!

- Place your chosen constellation inside the lid of the tube, you may need to use a very small piece of blue tack or tape on each side to secure. Then place the lid back on your container.
- When night falls and you're all cosy in your indoor fort place your torch or phone light at the base of the container against the hole. Be amazed as you create a star-filled night sky in your own living room!

