



Under the Sky

In this activity we want you to explore the sky under which we live.

Take your pick from the list of suggested ideas, which may have come from existing resources (e.g. Roundabouts / Handbooks / Badges / GFIs / Octants and other Girlguiding publications or choose your own activity).

You can gain your badge by challenging yourself to do something new and participating in activities involving being outdoors under the sky both during the day and at nighttime.

All Age Activity ideas

- > Visit a planetarium or observatory
- > Use a telescope to explore the universe
- > Make a kite and fly it safely
- > Invite an astronomer to a meeting so that they can show you the key features in a night sky
- > Recognise different cloud formations
- > Visit a Hot Air Balloon Festival
- > Make different types of boomerangs
- > Have a BBQ under a starry sky



Rainbow ideas

- > What do you notice when you see a rainbow in the sky?
- > Look at the clouds and see if you can tell what the weather will be like
- > Watch out for vapour trails and think where the people may be flying off to
- > Look at the patterns tree branches make against the sky
- > Look for cloud reflections in water
- > Make parachutes and use them outside



Links /Extensions

Rounabout:
Brain Waves 2

Brownie ideas

- > Point out four constellations which are visible throughout the year
- > Identify the planets which are visible in the sky
- > Over a 28 day period go out and check the moon. Draw what you see each night
- > Identify different types of clouds in the sky and what type of weather will they predict

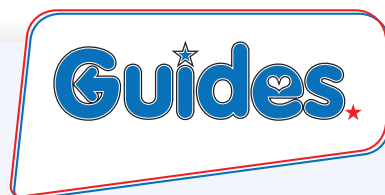


Links /Extensions

Stargazer
Brownie Adventure File

Guide ideas

- > Chill out under the stars
- > Find the North Star and then go for a walk knowing which direction you are walking in
- > Find 4 first magnitude stars. What constellations are they in and what time of the year are they visible?
- > Point out four constellations which are not visible throughout the year
- > Use binoculars or a telescope to explore the moon
- > Sleep out under a groundsheet under the starry night
- > Make kites and hold/or visit a kite festival
- > Make a hot air balloon
- > Light a fire using the sun
- > Make rockets and see how high you can make them go



Links /Extensions

GFI:
Flights of Fancy
I Will Survive
Space
Blast from the Past

The Senior Section ideas

- > Identify the International Space Station as it travels around the Earth
- > Take a younger Section group out to explore the sky at night





Websites

How to / Activities

- > www.my-best-kite.com/how-to-make-a-kite.html
- > www.instructables.com/id/Easy-Paper-Kite-for-Kids/
- > www.davideriknelson.com/sbsb/2010/11/printnsnip_boomerang_template.html
- > www.auntannie.com/Geometric/MiniBoomerang/
- > www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments/freefall.html
- > www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Parachute-With-a-Plastic-Bag-and-a-Straw
- > www.kbears.com/sciences/science-fair/sfparachute.htm
- > www.naturalnavigator.com/find-your-way-using/stars
- > www.synapses.co.uk/astro/brightna.html
- > www.balloonexplorium.org/index.php?page=tissue-paper-balloons
- > www.campfiredude.com/fire-from-sun.shtml
- > wildwoodsurvival.com/survival/fire/magnifier/index.html
- > www.wikihow.com/Build-a-Bottle-Rocket
- > spaceplace.nasa.gov/pop-rocket/en/
- > www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Baking-Soda-and-Vinegar-Rocket

Information Websites

- > www.planetarium.org.uk/planetaria.asp
- > www.popastro.com/help/help.php?title_pag=Starting%20to%20Use%20Your%20Telescope
- > www.opticsplanet.com/howto/how-to-tips-for-telescope-observing-for-beginners.html
- > www.metoffice.gov.uk/learning/clouds/cloud-names-classifications
- > www.weatherwizkids.com/weather-clouds.htm
- > www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/weather/clouds.html
- > www.balloonevents.org/
- > www.bbac.org/
- > www.fireservice.co.uk/safety/barbecue
- > www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Summerhealth/Pages/Barbecuefoodsafety.aspx
- > www.weatherwizkids.com/weather-optical-illusions.htm
- > weather-facts.com/rainbow-facts.php
- > www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/623212/vapour-trail
- > contrailscience.com/why-do-some-planes-leave-long-trails-but-others-dont/
- > www.kidzone.ws/plants/trees.htm
- > www.google.com/sky/
- > www.kidsastronomy.com/astroskymap/constellations.htm
- > space.about.com/library/graphics/constellation_patterns.jpg
- > www.nakedeyeplanets.com/
- > www.beckstromobservatory.com/whats-up-in-tonights-sky-2/
- > www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/moon/phases.html
- > www.planetsforkids.org/moon-moon.html
- > www.planetsforkids.org/
- > www.synapses.co.uk/astro/brightna.html
- > spotthestation.nasa.gov/
- > earthsky.org/space/how-to-spot-the-international-space-station
- > astronomynow.com/uk-sky-chart/

**Let us know what you've been up to
on the Growing Up Wild website!**

