



## Dash's Eye in the Sky

Dash has recently discovered that binoculars are not only useful during the daytime! Binoculars can be used as two mini-telescopes! On a clear night, a good pair of binoculars can be turned to the starry sky to find star constellations, craters, mountains and shadows on the moon. They can also be used to find the moons of Jupiter. Jupiter is a planet that is very far away and has four very large moons. Binoculars can be used to see the Orion Nebula, which looks like a fuzzy blob, which is where huge amounts of stars are being born! With binoculars you can see a lot of things you cannot see with your eyes alone!

### What you'll need:

- Space Box
- White construction paper
- Black construction paper
- Colored pencils or crayons
- Stapler w/staples
- Pencils
- Binoculars
- Scissors



### The Activity:

Discuss with children their ability to see the shadows and craters on the moon with their naked eye. Explain that binoculars are used to observe things that are far away during the daytime. Discuss their ability to see different star constellations, craters on the moon, Jupiter's moon etc. with binoculars on clear nights.

- Give each parent-child team one piece of white and one piece of black paper.
- Instruct them to cut the paper in half (hamburger).
- Have them stack the paper then fold it in half to create a Night Sky Journal.
- Staple the book.
- Instruct them to decorate the outside and to write their name on the book.
- Allow the children to look into each of the boxes and record what they see on the pages of their book.
- Encourage the children to use the white pencils or crayons on the black pages for the stars and constellations and to use the white pages to draw the Orion Nebula, moon, etc.
- Close by challenging the children to explore a clear night sky with binoculars and to record what they see.

The PBS KIDS logo is a registered mark of the Public Broadcasting Service and is used with permission. All rights reserved.