



Meeting 20 Astronomy



Here are three fun ways to teach Builders about astronomy. Adapt the activities to meet the needs of your Builders or create your own activities.





The following activities partially complete the requirements for the Astronomer award.

ACTIVITY

1

Constellations

15

MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

Begin by reading Psalm 147:4 (NET): “He counts the number of the stars; he names all of them.” Ask the children if they know the names of any stars. Show them the basic shapes of some constellations.

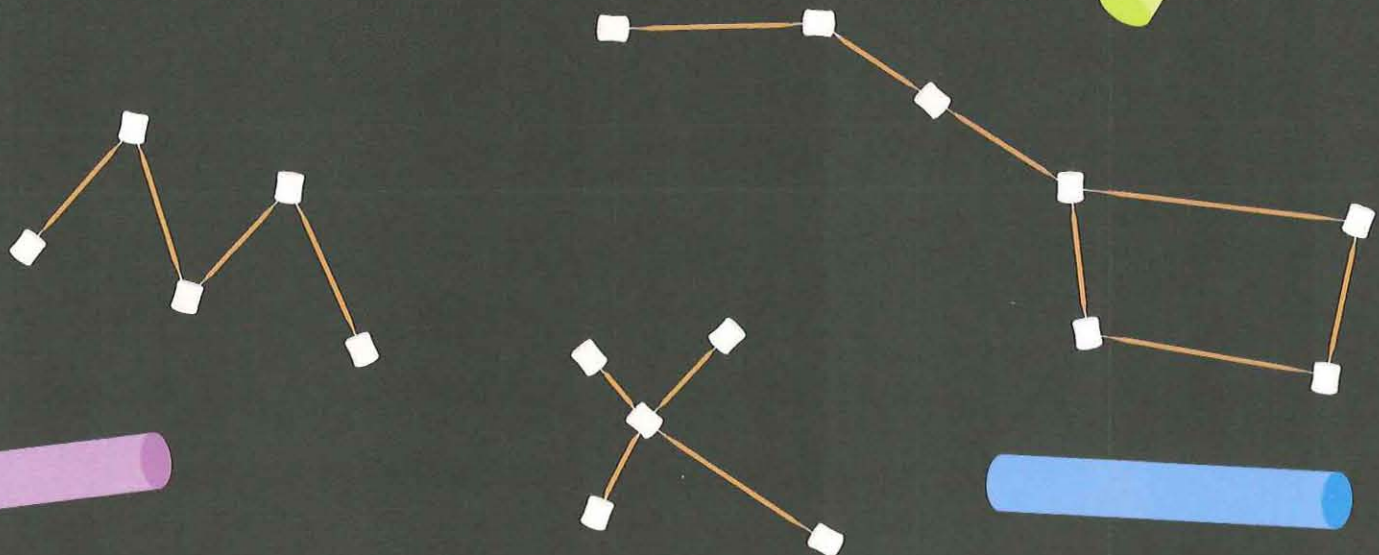
Then show the children a marshmallow constellation you have made. Next, have the children select a constellation from the patterns you have provided. Following the basic constellation patterns, the children will use marshmallows to represent the stars, and they will connect each star (marshmallow) with a toothpick. Help them trim the toothpicks to appropriate lengths for their chosen constellations. Once they have assembled the constellation, they should put a drop of glue on the back of each marshmallow and attach it to a sheet of construction paper. Then they write the name of the constellation on the construction paper with a gel pen. Let the children make as many constellations as you have time for.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Mini marshmallows
- Multicolored toothpicks
- Craft glue
- Gel pens or chalk
- Black construction paper
- Constellation Outlines (see Pinterest)
- Scissors



Find the **Constellation Outlines** at [Pinterest.com/AdventSource](https://www.pinterest.com/AdventSource)



Planets in Space

15
MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

Read Genesis 2:1 (GNT): “And so the whole universe was completed.” Ask the Builders what is in the universe other than stars. Show the children pictures of the planets. Let the children share a few facts that they know about planets.

Show the children a completed picture of planets. Have the children begin the project by drawing circles in various sizes to represent planets. The children can draw all eight planets or just a few of the planets. It’s up to the Builders how they want to fill their paper. Encourage the children to start coloring at the top of the page and work down so they don’t smear the oil or chalk pastels. Let the children know that using more than one color on each planet will give it an interesting effect. Once they have colored a planet, have them use a cotton swab to blend the colors together. They can also add stars to the sky.

2 ACTIVITY

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Black construction paper
- Pictures of the planets from a book or the Internet
- Pencils and erasers
- Oil pastels or chalk pastels
- Cotton swabs





ACTIVITY

3

Telescope

15

MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Paper towel tubes, one per child
- Markers
- Space-themed stickers (stars, planets, moons, rockets)
- Telescope

Ahead of time: Invite an astronomy enthusiast to bring a telescope for the Builders to try. Ask your guest to tell the kids what they've been able to see through their telescope.

Introduce the guest speaker and give the Builders instructions for how to behave around the telescope. Ask your guest to speak about their telescope and allow time for the kids to ask a few questions. Next, assist your guest in allowing each Builder to look through the telescope.

Give each Builder a paper towel tube, markers, and stickers so they can each decorate their own telescope.



Award: Astronomer

To complete this award, check the requirements on p. 134 and add activities as needed.