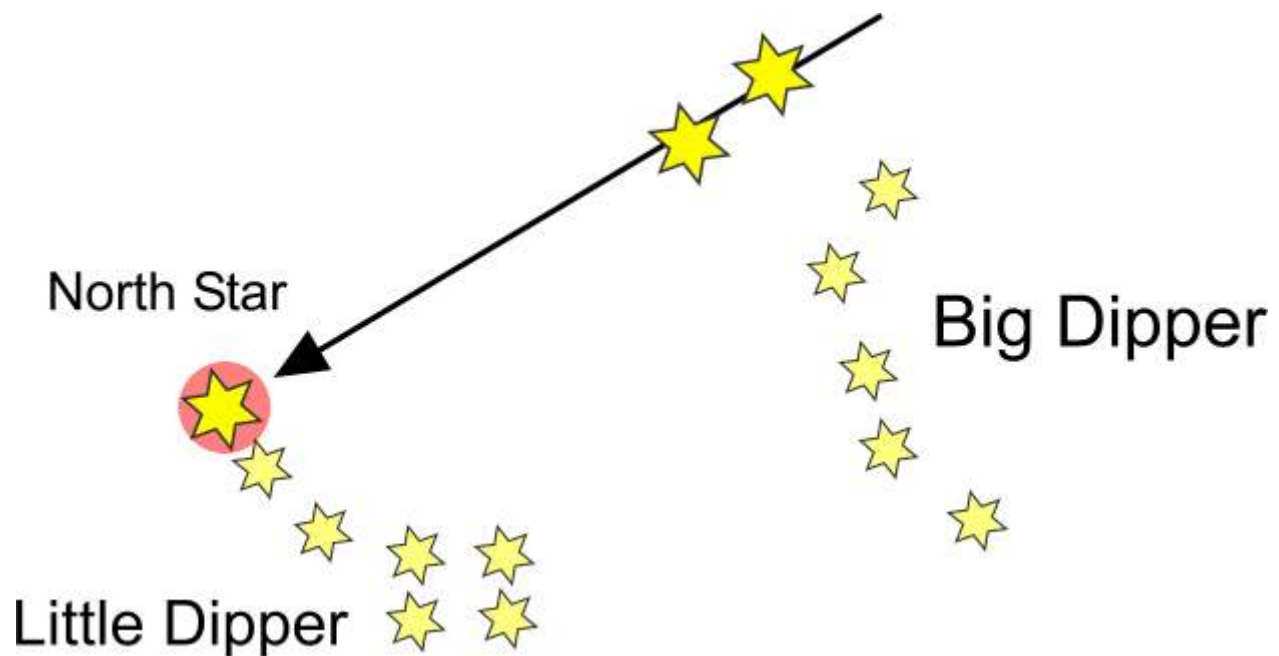
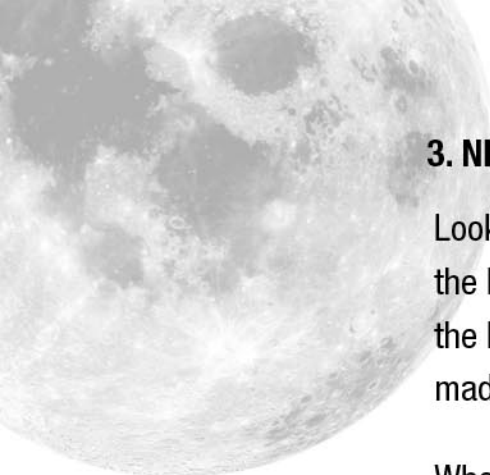


## Finding the Big Dipper, the North Star, and the Little Dipper

Use this aid for **Bear Elective 1: Space – Requirement a**: Identify two constellations and the North Star in the night sky.

1. To locate the Big Dipper, look in the north sky.
2. Look for a constellation that looks like a big ladle. See the picture below for an example, but be aware that the orientation of the constellation might be different than shown in the picture.
3. Imagine a line from the two stars at the end of the “bowl” of the Big Dipper.
4. Follow that line to find the bright star at the end of the handle of the Little Dipper.
5. That star is the North Star. The North Star always points to true north.





### 3. NIGHTTIME STAR METHOD

Look for the North Star, also called Polaris, in the sky at night. It's the last star in the handle of the Little Dipper. If you can't see the Little Dipper right away, look for the Big Dipper - it's a large pattern of stars that looks like a ladle. Follow a line made by the two stars at the front of the ladle and you will see Polaris.

When you see the North Star, draw an imaginary line from it straight down to Earth. This will be true north. Try to find a landmark in the distance to help you remember where it is.

Trace the stars of the two Dippers and find Polaris.

