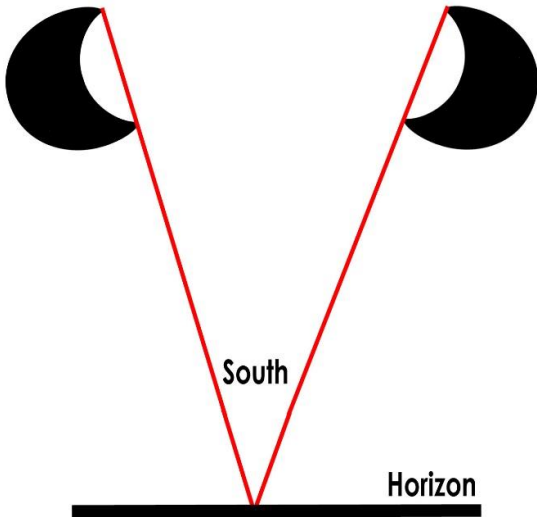




These days everyone can find their way in the world, once they have their mobile phone! Scouts learn to find direction by other methods, and this can even be done at night. Here are two really handy ways to find North and South. Go outside during Earth Hour to see how easy it is.



Navigation by the moon

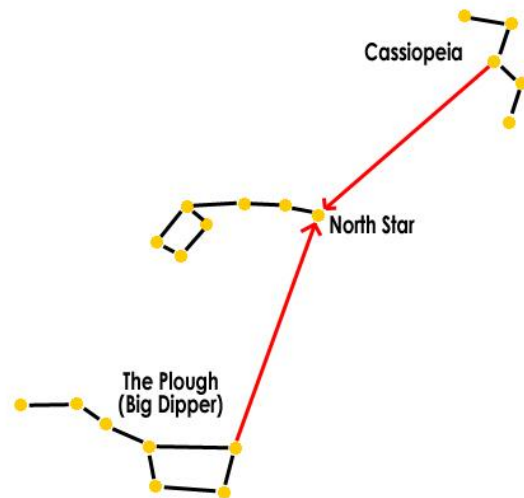
When the moon is not full – a crescent or a half moon – you can find where South is. Draw an imaginary line between the top and bottom points of the crescent and continue the line on down to the horizon. That will be due South.

Go out now and check it out.

Navigation by the stars

Only one star stays in exactly the same position all night, and that is the North Star. Guess what direction it is in?!

To find it, first find The Plough. Then draw a line between the two stars on the right of it, and extend that line five times the distance of the gap between these two. The middle of the big “W”, Cassiopeia, also roughly points towards it.



Keep it up Make a habit of looking at the sky at night, especially when you are out in the countryside or camping. Before long you will only need to glance up to spot the stars you need to guide you. Once you have the hang of it, share this skill with other scouts. Teach them how to understand the night sky. Finally, why not learn more about navigation by the stars to allow for partly cloudy nights when you can't spot what you need. Look up the constellation Orion, and find out which star rises exactly in the East and sets in the West

