1. Orion

One of the most recognizable constellations in the night sky is Orion. Named after a powerful hunter from Greek mythology, Orion boasts a distinctive shape that resembles a warrior. It features a belt of three bright stars, which are aligned vertically. Orion is visible from South Africa during the winter months and is easily spotted in the southern hemisphere. This constellation holds great significance as it contains some of the brightest stars, including Betelgeuse and Rigel.

Source: Diffit, https://beta.diffit.me/ , H Erlangsen, 19:07:2023

Draw and label the constellation, ORION.

1. **WATCH** this video: Cernan Earth and Space Centre, 2021, **Stories in the Stars: Orion the Hunter**
2. **LOOK** at your constellation: Stellarium web, https://stellarium-web.org

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2. Crux or Southern Cross

The Southern Cross, or Crux, is a constellation that holds deep cultural and historical importance in South Africa. This iconic constellation consists of four bright stars that form a cross shape. It is visible throughout the year, but it reaches its highest point in the sky during the southern hemisphere's winter months. The Southern Cross has been used for centuries by sailors and explorers as a navigational tool, guiding them across vast oceans.

Diffit, https://beta.diffit.me/ , H Erlangsen, 19:07:2023

Draw and label the constellation, CRUX.

1. **WATCH** this video: Kenneth Kramm, **Night Sky Navigation #2 Finding North in the Southern Hemisphere,2015**
2. **LOOK** at your constellation: Stellarium web, https://stellarium-web.org/

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3. Centaurus

Centaurus, the Centaur, is another prominent constellation visible from South Africa. It represents a mythical creature with the upper body of a human and the lower body of a horse. Centaurus is known for its brightest star, Alpha Centauri, which is the closest star system to our own solar system. This constellation is visible year-round and can be found in the southern sky. Its presence has fascinated astronomers for centuries, leading to important discoveries about our universe.

Diffit, https://beta.diffit.me/ , H Erlangsen, 19:07:2023

Draw and label the constellation, CENTAURUS.

1. **WATCH** this video: Learn the Stars, **How to Find Centaurus the Centaur Constellation, 2021**
2. **LOOK** at your constellation: Stellarium web, https://stellarium-web.org/

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4. Scorpius

Scorpius, the Scorpion, is a striking constellation that dominates the southern sky during the summer months in South Africa. It is easily identifiable due to its curved shape, resembling a scorpion with a long tail and pincers. Scorpius contains one of the brightest stars in the night sky, Antares, which shines with a reddish hue. In ancient mythology, Scorpius represents the scorpion that stung Orion, leading to his demise. This constellation's presence serves as a reminder of the interconnectedness of celestial bodies and the stories they tell.

Diffit, https://beta.diffit.me/ , H Erlangsen, 19:07:2023

Draw and label the constellation, SCORPIUS.

1. **WATCH** this video: Learn the Sky, **How to Find Scorpius the Scorpion - Constellation of the Zodiac, 2020,** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cg_xDGbNqss
2. **LOOK** at your constellation: Stellarium web, https://stellarium-web.org/

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5. Sagittarius

Sagittarius, the archer, is an easily recognizable constellation in the southern hemisphere. It depicts a centaur holding a bow and arrow. Look for a group of stars that form a teapot shape, which is a distinctive feature of Sagittarius.

Diffit, https://beta.diffit.me/ , H Erlangsen, 19:07:2023

Draw and label the constellation, SAGITTARIUS.

1. **WATCH** this video: Learn the Sky, **How to Find Sagittarius the Archer Constellation of the Zodiac,**
2. **LOOK** at your constellation: Stellarium web, https://stellarium-web.org/

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6. Canis Major

Canis Major, the great dog, is a constellation that represents a loyal hunting dog from Greek mythology. Look for the brightest star in the night sky, called Sirius, which is part of this constellation. Sirius shines with a dazzling blue-white light.
Drift, https://beta.diffit.me/ , H Erlangsen, 19:07:2023

Draw and label the constellation, CANIS MAJOR.

1. **WATCH** this video: Learn the Sky, **How to Find Canis Major the Great Dog Constellation**
2. **LOOK** at your constellation: Stellarium web, https://stellarium-web.org/

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