

Name _____ Class _____

Star Watch Activities

Background: Our first unit involves recognition of constellations in the night sky. We are interested in not only recognizing them, but learning how they move over the course of the night and over the course of the year. It is difficult to locate and see constellations if you are not trained to do so. As a result, we ask that your child attend **one** star watch at the Middle School. For safety reasons, we ask that **you attend** with your child. Younger and older siblings are welcome. Please help us by focusing your child and your neighbors when we begin to teach the constellations. The crowd is often quite large and we will need your help.

Times: Weather permitting. **8:15 – 8:45pm** Wednesday, Sept 4, Friday, Sept. 6, Monday, Sept. 9, Tuesday, Sept. 10, Thursday, Sept. 12. If the weather is poor on the Mon, Tues, Wed, or Thursday there will be a make-up on the following M, T, W, or Th. No Friday make-up sorry.

You may come at any time during the 8:15 – 8:45pm block. You only need to stay long enough to see the constellations, and then you may leave.

Cancellation: Ms. Nichols will post a cancellation on her website by 8:00pm if the weather looks bad.

Where: Wayland Middle School Back field. Please find the sign-up sheet for your teacher and sign in with your full name and class color when you arrive. This is how you receive credit.

Parking: Please park in the main lot and walk around back so as not to blind us with your headlights.

Optional Additional Events: If all goes well, we will have a telescope (funded by the Wayland Public Schools Foundation) set up to view celestial objects as well as binoculars available to observe the Andromeda Galaxy.

Final request: After attending star watch, please take your child to an open area near your house and try to locate the constellations on your own. Draw in the constellations or parts of constellations you were able to locate on a class star sheet and turn this in with your name on it.

School Star Watch: It is assumed that **all** students will arrange to come to a star watch.

_____ I will bring my child to the **school star watch**. I understand that if it is raining or completely overcast the star watch is automatically cancelled. If the weather is sketchy, check Ms. Nichols website. You can access this through the school web page.

Sign here: _____

Home Star Watch:

_____ I will take my child to an open area at home or nearby to try and locate the stars ourselves after attending the school star watch.

Sign here: _____

Thank you in advance for your help,
Rich Battaglia, and Jennifer Nichols.