STARGAZING
LIVE
STAR PARTY PACK
**GETTING STARTED**

As a stargazing party host what are the essentials you should consider?

Firstly, it would be wise to check the weather forecast! We all know you can never guarantee ideal weather conditions, especially in the UK. However, the success of a stargazing party is very much dependent on clear skies, so to avoid the weather raining on your parade simply go to [bbc.co.uk/weather](http://bbc.co.uk/weather).

**EQUIPMENT**

Access to a telescope will really add something special to your party, offering fantastic views of the night sky in great detail. It’s important someone has experience of using a telescope as they can be complicated pieces of equipment.

Don’t panic, a telescope isn’t vital! As long as your guests have a pair of binoculars, their stargazing experience will be seven times greater than using their unaided eyes.

Provide a compass, as this will give you a clear idea of which direction you’re looking when searching for constellations and planets.

Use red light torches rather than standard white torches to help you see in the dark. The red light won’t ruin your night vision but will provide enough light to help you see any hazards and reduce eye strain when you refer to your information sheets. Adapt a normal torch using red cellophane or you could use a rear bicycle light.

Apps – there are many free apps available for mobile devices that use inbuilt GPS to help navigate the night sky.

Visit our website [bbc.co.uk/stargazing](http://bbc.co.uk/stargazing) where you can access more information on using equipment and astronomy apps.

Make sure you have a few extra blankets available for guests who are sensitive to cold conditions. It might be worth pre-warning guests to dress appropriately for your party; warm clothing is essential.

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**Stargazing LIVE** is back, and once again the nation will join Professor Brian Cox and Dara O Briain to look at the skies, taking in the wonders of the Universe. Whether you are a seasoned professional or completely new to stargazing, this Star Party Pack will offer you fun and interesting ways to host your very own stargazing party.

Instead of stargazing on your own why not invite family and friends to join you? Our Star Party Pack offers a variety of top tips that can be customised to suit any age range. As a group you can share the fun of cooking up your own stargazing menu and create cool decorations to give your party that intergalactic feel. This pack will provide inspiration for interactive activities that everyone can enjoy. There’s even a list of space themed songs to launch your party into the stratosphere, choose your playlist carefully - so there is something in it for everyone.

What are you waiting for? Dust off your binoculars to gaze up at the night sky to discover the constellations that have been shining down on us for millions of years.

**Stargazing LIVE** is just around the corner so why not bring a sparkle to your home by hosting the stargazing party of the year! Best of Luck! The **Stargazing LIVE** Team
It will be useful to provide information for your guests that will help them find out what it is they are actually looking at in the sky!

INVITATIONS
Once you have your guest list finalised send invitations to your friends using our invitation. Click here and fill in the details then email it across to each guest.

DECORATIONS
When hosting your own party it’s always fun to create a themed atmosphere – in this case, SPACE. To help you along the way we’ve come up with a few simple and easy ways to do just that!

■ You can find amazing astrophotos on our website, just go to bbc.co.uk/stargazing. Why not print these images and display them on your walls to show off the wonders of the Universe in your own home!

■ Create ambience outside by arranging tea lights into constellations.

■ Turn paper lanterns into planets by using different coloured light bulbs. For example use a red light for Mars, a blue light for Neptune and a green light for Uranus.

■ Create an indoor observable Universe by making your own cosmic objects and hanging them from your ceiling.

■ It’s easy to make stars out of cardboard and tissue paper or tin foil. This is a great activity for children to get involved in and once they’re finished you can hang your stars from ceilings or simply display them on walls.

■ Another fun idea is to either ask people to come in fancy dress or simply tell them there is a prize for the best star hat.

Don’t worry too much about turning your home or venue into a space odyssey because we hope that you will all be looking up to the skies to view the real thing!
HUNGRY STARGAZERS

With decorations underway it’s time to start thinking about the culinary delights you’ll be offering your stargazing guests.

There’s no need to start ordering in astronaut space food, although this is a novel idea! If you’re interested to see what ‘space food’ looks like just take a look below.

Not the most inspiring menu is it?

It’s easy to be inventive when it comes to food. Think of fun space themed names for your usual party dishes. Here are just a few ideas.

CHECK OUT OUR RECIPE FOR STAR BISCUITS. THEY ARE EASY TO MAKE AND GO DOWN WELL WITH A NICE CUP OF TEA – OR A MILKY WAY BREW!

STAR BISCUITS

Ingredients:
- 200g unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 150g caster sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 egg
- 300g plain flour, sifted
- 1 egg white
- Sugar crystals or silver balls to decorate

Cream the butter and sugar together. Beat in the vanilla and egg and then add the flour. Beat until smooth, remove from the bowl, halve the amount and shape into two discs. Wrap with cling film and chill for about 40 minutes until firm.

Heat oven to 180C, fan 160C, gas 4. Dust the work top with flour and roll out one portion of dough to 3mm thick. Cut out cosmic shapes with cutters. Line two baking sheets with non-stick baking paper and lift the cookies onto it using a palette knife. Chill for 10 minutes and then bake for 10-12 minutes until just turning golden at the edges. Cool on a baking rack. When cool, brush lightly with egg white then sprinkle with silver balls or sugar crystals. Makes around 40.

STARGAZERS MENU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOOD</th>
<th>DRINK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rocket Salad</td>
<td>Milky Way Brews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hubble’s Hot Dogs</td>
<td>Black Hole Chocolate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moon Pies</td>
<td>Star Burst fruit juices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornflake Meteorites</td>
<td>Rocket Fuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Dwarfs – stuffed red peppers</td>
<td>Cosmic Coffee / Meteor Mocha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Soup’ernova</td>
<td>Alienade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsmallows</td>
<td>Jupiter’s Juice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comet bites – chicken skewers</td>
<td>Hubble-y Bubble-y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate ‘Sun’daes</td>
<td>Solar Soda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Bangers – sausages and mash</td>
<td>Space Shake</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit: Nasa
STAR PARTY SOUNDTRACK

Every party needs a foot stomping playlist. To help you with space themed song choices we’ve come up with some ideas that will make sure your stargazing guests get into the spirit of space. Can you think of any more?

There is something for everyone so pick and choose your playlist carefully to capture the imagination of your guests.

### SONG LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SONG TITLE</th>
<th>ARTIST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chasing the Sun</td>
<td>The Wanted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drops of Jupiter</td>
<td>Train</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moon and Back</td>
<td>Savage Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking on the Moon</td>
<td>The Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folding Stars</td>
<td>Biffy Clyro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aliens Exist</td>
<td>Blink 182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>Stevie Wonder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man on the Moon</td>
<td>REM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spaceman</td>
<td>Babylon Zoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space Oddity</td>
<td>David Bowie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Girl</td>
<td>McFly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reach for the Stars</td>
<td>S Club 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Man</td>
<td>David Bowie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergalactic</td>
<td>Beastie Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starry Eyed</td>
<td>Ellie Goulding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocket Man</td>
<td>Elton John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girl from Mars</td>
<td>Ash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stardust</td>
<td>Nat King Cole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus as a Boy</td>
<td>Bjork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>Bananarama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinging on a Star</td>
<td>Bing Crosby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She’s a Star</td>
<td>James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We Are All Made of Stars</td>
<td>Moby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby I’m a Star</td>
<td>Prince</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fly Me to the Moon</td>
<td>Frank Sinatra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vincent</td>
<td>Don McLean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting for a Star to Fall</td>
<td>Boy Meets Girl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champagne Supernova</td>
<td>Oasis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satellite of Love</td>
<td>Lou Reed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starships</td>
<td>Nicki Menaj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosmic Love</td>
<td>Florence and the Machine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space Cowboy</td>
<td>Jamiroquai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dancing in the Moonlight</td>
<td>Topleader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed of Sound</td>
<td>Coldplay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Planets</td>
<td>Gustav Holst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Eclipse of the Heart</td>
<td>Bonnie Tyler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Galaxy Song</td>
<td>Eric Idle/Monty Python</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Don’t Want to Live on the Moon</td>
<td>Sesame Street, Ernie or the Joseph Gordon-Levitt version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000 Light Years from Home</td>
<td>The Rolling Stones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Guitar</td>
<td>The Chemical Brothers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space Walk</td>
<td>Lemon Jelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of Space</td>
<td>The Prodigy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ACTIVITIES

As well as getting your guests spotting stars and constellations such as Cassiopeia and Orion why not provide other party activities. Download the Event Guide from [bbc.co.uk/stargazing](http://bbc.co.uk/stargazing) for some ideas for hands on activities.

Download the Star Guide and the Event Pack as both contain lots of information about the night sky including Star Maps, Astrophotography and Audio Guides so you know what you’re looking for alongside hands on activities. You should have plenty of material to keep your guests busy.

### INDOOR ACTIVITIES

Test your guests’ astro knowledge. Print off copies of the stargazing quiz and hand them out at your party. There are some tough questions but most of the answers can be found on the [Stargazing LIVE](http://StargazingLIVE) website. So get your thinking caps on and may the best team win! There are lots of other traditional party games that you can give a space twist – pass the asteroid using a balloon, charades and who/what am I? You can always count on these games to get the party going.

### OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Start off with an ancient challenge known as The Roman Army Test.

This was an ancient eye-test carried out by those who wished to join the Roman army. If you look up at the stars around 9pm you should be able to see The Plough. The handle of The Plough is made up of three stars and it is the middle star called Mizar that you need to focus on. If you look for a few seconds longer you should be able to see a second star appearing just next to Mizar. This star is called Alcor and if you could see this star in ancient Roman times you would have been recruited as an archer in the Roman army. Why not give it a go at your star party?
STARGAZING QUIZ

1. Who was the first woman in space?
   A: __________

2. How many Earths would fit into Jupiter?
   A: __________

3. Olympus Mons is a large volcanic mountain on which planet?
   A: __________

4. What are stars made of?
   A: __________

5. What do they call a region of space where conditions are favourable for life as it is found on Earth?
   A: __________

6. What is the brightest star ever known?
   A: __________

7. What was the name of Neil Armstrong’s famous Nasa space mission?
   A: __________

8. Which planet in our Solar System has the most moons? How many?
   A: __________

9. What is the proper name for the North Star, the star positioned above the North Pole?
   A: __________

10. The constellation Ursa Major, which can be found by looking north in the winter months, is in the shape of which animal?
    A: __________

11. The constellation Cassiopeia appears in the sky in the shape of which letter of the alphabet?
    A: __________

12. Planet Earth is in a galaxy called the Milky Way, but what’s the name of our nearest neighbouring large galaxy?
    A: __________

13. Mars has two moons, can you name them?
    A: __________

14. How many astronauts have landed on the Moon?
    A: __________

15. How long does it take for the Moon to go through a complete set of phases from Full Moon back to Full Moon?
    A: __________

16. What is the difference between a meteor and a meteorite?
    A: __________

17. What is the name of the middle star in the handle of The Plough?
    A: __________

18. In Greek mythology, who was Cassiopeia?
    A: __________

19. On average, how long does it take light to travel from the Sun to the Earth?
    A: __________

20. In what century did Chinese, Japanese and Arabic astronomers record seeing an incredibly bright object in the sky that we now know was a supernova?
    A: __________

21. What kind of star will the Sun eventually turn into?
    A: __________
Across

2. This planet is known for its rings (6)
5. Earth is part of this galaxy (5,3)
7. They have walked on the moon (10)
8. It will help you to see stars and planets clearly (9)
11. The last planet in our solar system (7)
12. This star was used for navigation (5,4)
13. A ball made up of dust, ice and gases (5)

Down

1. They orbit planets (5)
3. A way to measure distance in space (5,4)
4. There is none of this on the Moon (7)
6. A vast space of nothing (5,4)
9. Everything began with this (3,3,4)
10. Shapes that stars make in the sky (13)
KIDS’ ACTIVITIES

SPACE ANAGRAMS

There are eight space themed anagrams below. Can you work out what the space related words are by unscrambling the letters? Two out of the eight anagrams are famous people. Go on, have a go!

ALERT MORNINGS
LIES AT LET
CORKET
RUM RECY
ERE ME IT TO
A SPEC
BARN CROP OF XI
SALES MRS TOY

Can you find the words below hidden within the space themed word search? Give it a try and see how many you can uncover!

SUPERNOVA
SHOOTING STAR
GALAXY
UNIVERSE
MARS
EARTH
JUPITER
SATELLITE
ROCKET
PLANET

WORDSEARCH

ALERT MORNINGS
ERUBAUQJOLAF
PATYPUNITBT
TMSDETAMSRED
UNMTEREVGKTY
MIKNAWNJCGCX
AVAXRIXOZFKA
RLTJMREVHIL
PUXOHNZDYAGA
ELOGPASOOGH
THEETILLETAS
SOAYLJUPITER
**KIDS’ ACTIVITIES**

**SCIENCE FACT OR SCIENCE FICTION**
Below are 15 space related statements. Do you know which ones are science FACT or science FICTION? Circle fact or fiction depending on which statement you think is true or false.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>FACT OR FICTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. One million earths can fit into the Sun.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Venus is the brightest planet in our sky.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The asteroid belt lies between Saturn and Jupiter.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Pulsars are stars that are the remains of a supernova explosion.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Yuri Gagarin was the first astronaut to walk on the Moon in 1969.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. In ancient Greece the Sun was called Helios.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Mars has two moons called Romulus and Remus.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Stellar Black Holes are created when two asteroids collide.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. One year on Neptune is the same as 165 Earth years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Pluto is now known as a dwarf planet.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Blue Giant stars are cooler than Red Dwarf stars.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Every single man-made item in space has a catalogue number.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. 50% of Earth’s surface is covered in water.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Galileo Galilei was the first man to create a refractor telescope in 1609.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Saturn’s largest moon, Titan, is bigger than the planet Mercury.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
KIDS’ ACTIVITIES

Join the dots to reveal the best way to travel in space.
CROSSWORD

Across:

Down:

ANSWERS

ANAGRAMS

ALERT MORNINGS = Neil Armstrong
ERE ME IT TO = Meteorite
LIES AT LET = Satellite
A SPEC = Space
CORKET = Rocket
BARN CROP OF XI = Prof. Brian Cox
RUM RECY = Mercury
SALES MRS TOY = Solar System

STARGAZING QUIZ

1. Valentina Tereshkova
2. 1,300
3. Mars
4. 3 Parts Hydrogen, 1 Part Helium
5. Goldilocks Zone
6. Sirius
7. Apollo Eleven – Moon Mission
8. Jupiter, the number of moons is currently 67 but this could change as astronomers may discover new ones.
9. Polaris
10. A bear
11. W
12. The Andromeda Galaxy
13. Phobos And Deimos
14. Twelve
15. 29.5 Days
16. Meteors are also known as shooting stars and are pieces of cancerous starlight which ultimately becomes a black hole.
17. Mizar
18. The wife Of King Cepheus
19. 8.3 minutes
20. 11th Century
21. White Dwarf

SCIENCE FACT OR SCIENCE FICTION

1. FACT
2. FACT
3. FICTION – The asteroid belt actually lies between Mars and Jupiter
4. FACT
5. FACT
6. FACT
7. FACT
8. FICTION – Stellar black holes form when the centre of a very massive star collapses in upon itself. This collapse also causes a supernova, an exploding star which ultimately leaves a black hole.
9. FACT
10. FACT
11. FICTION
12. FACT
13. FACT
14. FACT
15. FACT

9. FACT
10. FACT

FACT

FICTION

FACT

FACT

FACT

FACT

FACT

FACT

FACT

FACT

FACT

FACT