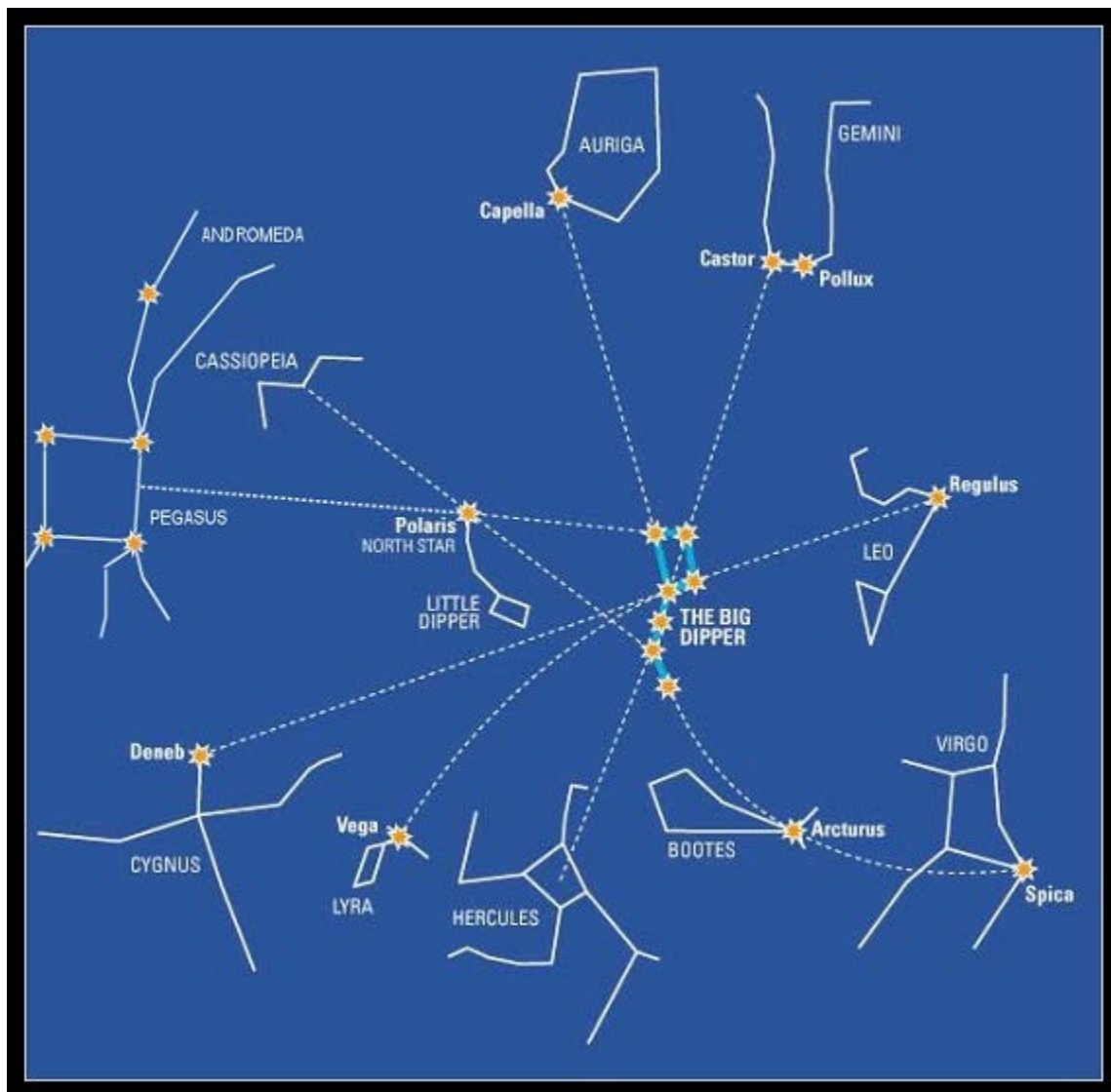
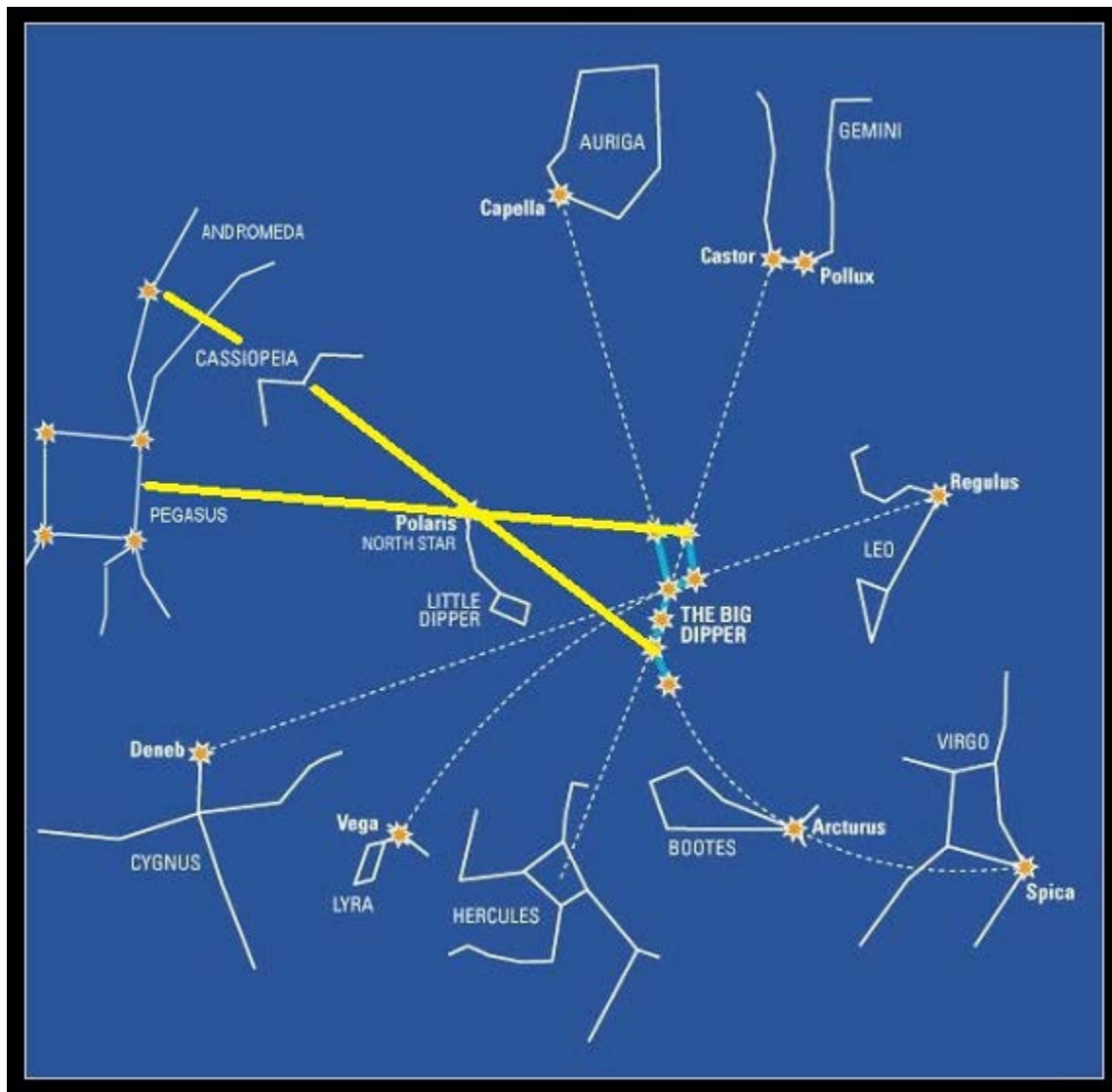


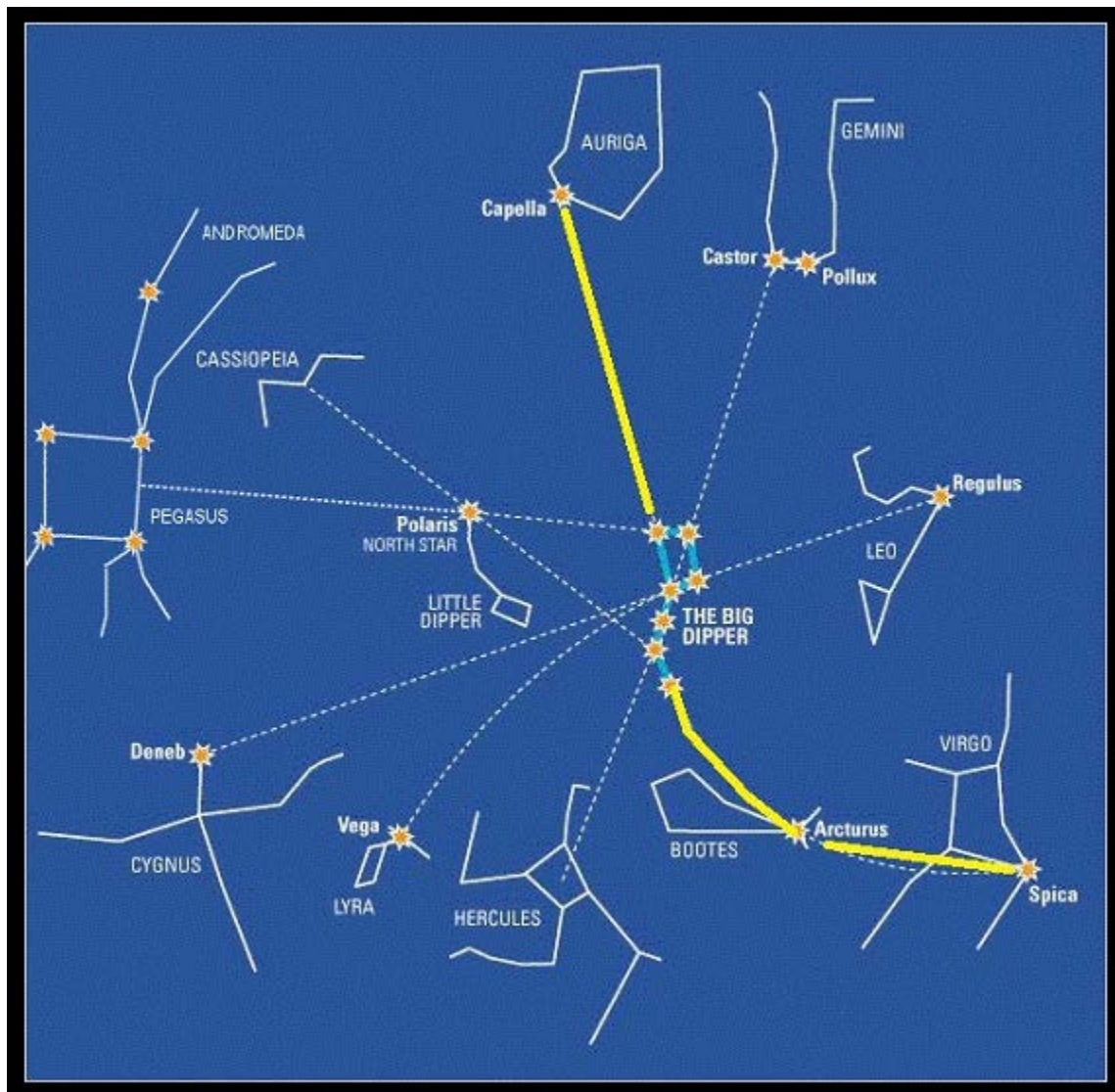
Constellations in our night sky can serve as “sign posts”... showing the way to other constellations and objects. One of the best is “The Big Dipper”... in Ursa Major. The pictures below show how it is done. There’s a lot of info here, so you could print it, or just sketch part of it for the next time you are under the stars.



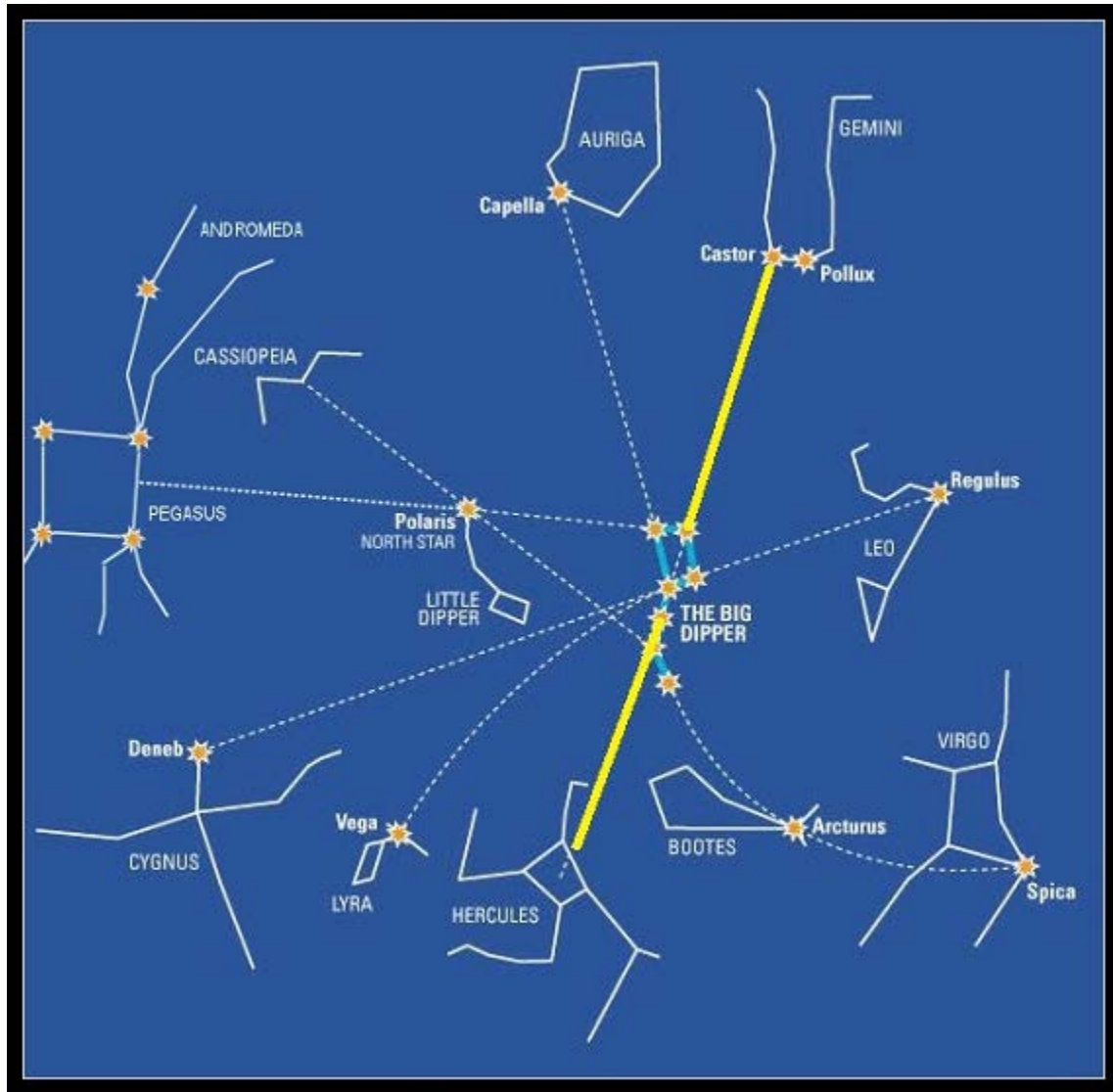
Start by drawing an imaginary line through the last two stars in the “bowl”. That will lead you to Polaris, our North Star. Continue on to the Great Square in the constellation of Pegasus. Another imaginary line drawn from the second star in the handle intersecting through Polaris will lead you to Cassiopeia, and then on to the Andromeda Galaxy.



Next, drawing an imaginary line through the top two stars of the pot will lead you to Capella, the “twinkling” star in Auriga. In the opposite direction, take the tree stars in the handle and draw an “arc” to Arcturus in Bootes... and then “spike” down to Spica in Virgo.



Drawing an imaginary line to the right diagonally through two of the “pot” stars will lead you to Castor and Pollux in the Gemini constellation. That same diagonal line in the opposite direction will lead you to Hercules.



Finally, an imaginary line drawn upwards through the two stars in the pot closest to the handle will lead you directly to Deneb in Cygnus, and one of the stars of the Summer Triangle. Draw the same line with an arc to the left and you end up at the bright star Vega, in Lyra. An imaginary line straight down through the two same stars in the pot leads you to the star Regulus, and the constellation of Leo.

