

Magnitude 1

The brightest
skies show red
Antares — the
heart of the
scorpion

Darkest skies
show the
cluster near the
stinger



6

Darkest skies
reveal the
double star
near the left
claw

5

In semi dark
skies the curve
of the tail
emerges

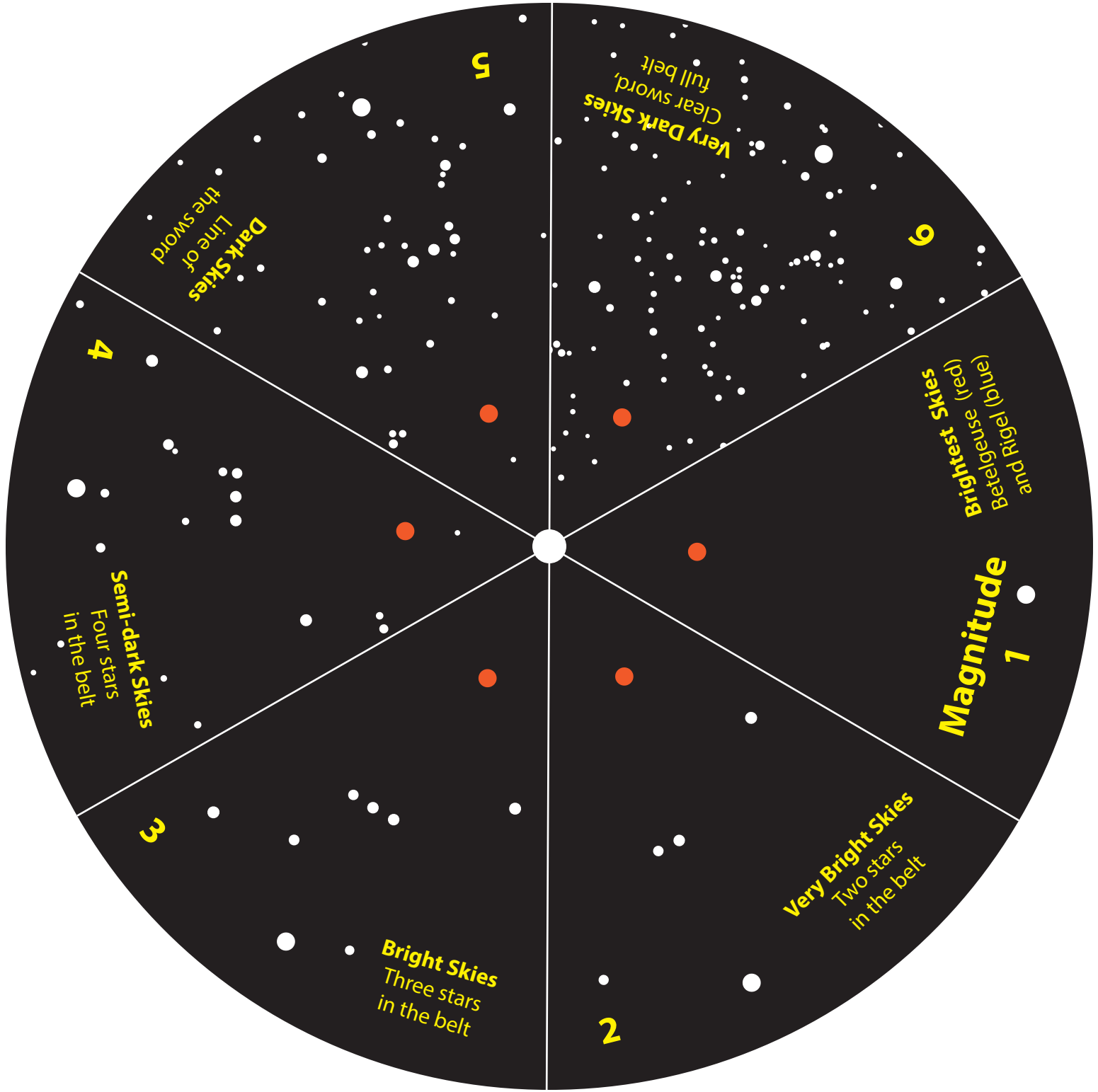
4

Bright skies show the
line of 3 stars — claw,
forehead, claw

3

In very bright
skies the tip of
the tail appears

2



Magnitude 1

Very Bright Skies
Two stars
in the belt

Bright Skies
Three stars
in the belt

Semi-dark Skies
Four stars
in the belt

Dark Skies
Line of
the sword

Very Dark Skies
Clear sword,
full belt

Brightest Stars
Betelgeuse (red)
and Rigel (blue)

6

5

4

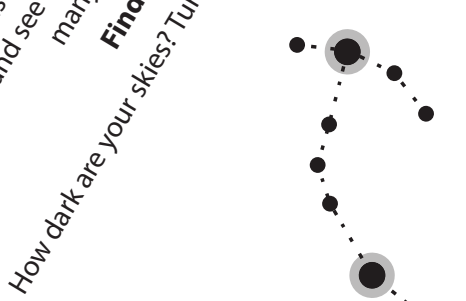
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2

Scorpius Dark Sky Wheel

Just 100 years ago, everyone all over the world could look up and see a sky full of stars. Now most people live in bright cities, and many have never experienced the awe of the Milky Way.

Find out how dark your skies are with this wheel.



Discover:
In the evening July sky, find the red star Antares near the center of the constellation Scorpius. The entire constellation will only be visible below 40° North.

Share:
Record your observation on GlobeAtNight.org and contribute to community science. Compare your sky brightness with measurements from around the world and find out how we are all affected by the loss of darkness!

Legends:
In many versions of the Greek myth, Gaia sent a scorpion that killed the great hunter and they are placed on opposite sides of the sky, so that when Orion sets, the constellation Scorpius rises. Other cultures tell different legends about the stars. Some Pacific Islanders see a great fish hook and the ancient Javanese saw a leaning coconut tree.

Get Dark:
Where can you find dark skies near you? Find your local amateur astronomy club and get connected with the wonders of the night sky: nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov

Limiting Magnitude
(the larger the number, the fainter the stars we can see)

Orion Dark Sky Wheel

Just 100 years ago, everyone all over the world could look up and see a sky full of stars. Now most people live in bright cities, and many have never experienced the awe of the Milky Way.

Find out how dark your skies are with this wheel.

How dark are your skies? Turn the wheel and compare what you see in the sky with the images here to find out.

Discover:

In the evening sky from January through March, find the red star Betelgeuse in one corner of the constellation Orion and the blue star Rigel in the other corner. Between the two, you may be able to see 3 stars in a line.

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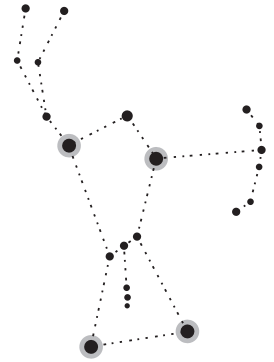


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In many versions of the Greek myth, Gaia sent a scorpion to kill the great hunter Orion and they are placed on opposite sides of the sky, so that when Orion sets, the constellation Scorpius rises. Other cultures tell different legends about the stars. In Latin America, many see the "Tres Marias" in the stars of the belt, while further north, the Lakota see the spine of a bison.



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