

# My Home Stargazing Map

## Part 1: Using a Compass

Stargazing websites can help you locate objects in the night sky. They will tell you which direction to look and what time is best to view certain planets, stars, meteor showers, etc. If you know how to locate north, south, east, and west, then you're all set! A compass can help you with this. The needle in a compass is a magnet. It points to magnetic north. Here's how to use a compass:

- Hold it flat in front of you so that the needle can spin freely. \*
- Once the needle stops moving, it will be pointing towards magnetic north.
- Rotate the compass (keep it flat) until the "N" on the dial aligns with the north end of the needle. Your compass is now properly aligned with magnetic north. (East, south and west on the compass will now also be in their correct positions!)

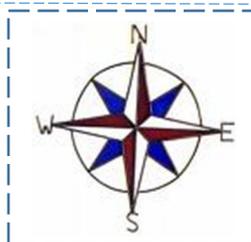
\* On some compasses, there is no needle and instead the entire N, S, E, W dial rotates. For this style of compass, simply hold it flat in front of you and once the dial stops moving, north will be aligned (and the other cardinal directions will be positioned correctly).

## Part 2: Create Your Home Stargazing Map

### *Instructions:*

On the back of this form, draw your home as viewed from above. Label the front and back of your home, and include any large nearby objects (garden, sidewalk, driveway, street, trees, etc.). Cut off the bottom portion of this activity sheet and cut out the compass rose. Next, stand outside your home and use a compass to locate north. Glue or tape the compass rose to your drawing, making sure north is oriented correctly. You now have a map to help you locate night-sky objects!

(Cut here) ↓





# My Home Stargazing Map

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for a student to draw a stargazing map of their home.