

Stellarium Activity #2


Name: _____


If you haven't downloaded Stellarium, please do so:

You can download Stellarium from <http://www.stellarium.org> (versions for Windows, Mac and Linux are available). Download the Users Guide as well.

To install:

- Windows: double-click on the file you downloaded (*stellarium-0.10.5.exe*) and follow the on-screen instructions;
- Mac: double click on the file you downloaded (*stellarium-0.10.5.dmg*), and drag the Stellarium icon to your Applications folder.

1. First, we will set up the location on Earth. Click on the  icon (first on the left strip); find Santa Cruz, United States in the list of cities. Close the window.

2. Next, set the date and time; click on the  icon and enter the date (September 30th) and time (20:00 pm = 8:00 pm, when the star party starts).

3. Open the “sky and viewing options” window on the left, then click on the “sky” option at the top. Slide the sliders for “planets” all the way to the right, so that the planet labels will all be visible.

Questions:

- 1) Use Google to look up the “Summer Triangle” and figure out what three stars comprise it. In Stellarium see if you can locate each of the three and list both the 3 stars and what constellations are located inside the triangle.

- 2) One of the brightest objects in the night sky right now is Jupiter. Find it in Stellarium and list which moons you can see orbiting around the planet. You can use the forward slash key to get a closer look at the planet and the moons if you're curious about their surfaces!

