

Homework #2 PH306 Due 20 March 2007

Please follow the instructions and enter your data into the web site.

In addition, I want you to submit (on the back of this sheet) your data: (1) time & date of observation, (2) longitude and latitude, (3) magnitude. You must do this on a clear night, when the moon is not up, between the dates of 8-21 March. I want you to make 3 observations on different nights. It is important that you observe Orion outside, away from any nearby lights so that the area around you is reasonably dark. The middle of a large lawn area is fine, for instance.

Can You See the Stars?

Join thousands of other students, families and citizen-scientists hunting for stars during March 8 - 21, 2007. Take part in this international event called GLOBE at Night to observe the nighttime sky and learn more about light pollution around the world.

GLOBE at Night is an easy observation and reporting activity that takes approximately 15-30 minutes to complete. Citizen-scientists record the brightness of the night sky by matching its appearance toward the constellation Orion with 1 of 7 stellar maps of different limiting magnitude. They then submit measurements on-line at www.globe.gov/globeatnight/. Resulting maps of all observations are created and placed back on-line by the GLOBE at Night staff within the couple of weeks that follow.

The five easy star-hunting steps, for which more information is provided on-line, are:

- 1) Find your latitude and longitude.
- 2) Find Orion by going outside an hour after sunset (about 7-10pm local time)
- 3) Match your nighttime sky to one of our magnitude charts.
- 4) Report your observation on our website.
- 5) Compare your observation to thousands around the world.

Helpful and user-friendly ancillary materials such as a teacher packet and science standards, a family packet, and student games and information are provided on-line at www.globe.gov/globeatnight/.

You can also subscribe to our mailing list to receive updates and results of this campaign. Visit www.globe.gov/globeatnight/ and click on "subscribe" at the bottom of the webpage.

During the 2006 event over 18,000 people from 96 countries submitted observations, including data from every U.S. state. Help us exceed these numbers in 2007!

GLOBE at Night is collaboration between the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (www.noao.edu), The GLOBE Program (www.globe.gov), Centro de Apoyo a la Didactica de la Astronomia, Windows to the Universe, The International Dark-Sky Association (www.darksky.org) and Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc.