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ASTRONOMY IN *Alphabet of Dreams*

by Susan Fletcher

Gaspar studied the stars with various instruments, but mostly with an astrolabe.

ASTROLABE ACTIVITY #1

Learn how to use an astrolabe (the Magi's "star-catcher"). You can find out more about astrolabes, and how to use them at the following website:

<http://www.astrolabes.org/electric.htm>

ASTROLABE ACTIVITY #2:

Encourage students to make astrolabes of their own. Directions can be found at:

http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/AtHomeAstronomy/activity_07.html

Some activities for using your homemade astrolabe are found at:

http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/AtHomeAstronomy/activity_o8.html

Buy a personal, customized, quite reasonable astrolabe for your very own:

<http://www.astrolabes.org/personal.htm>

HOW WE READ THE STARS NOW

Most scientists use telescopes and other technology to study the stars and planets. Make a visit to a local planetarium, or use books and the internet to learn more about astronomy.

MAKING A BASIC TELESCOPE ACTIVITY #1

Directions for making a basic telescope can be found at:

<http://www.howstuffworks.com/question568.htm>

