

# Explore the Universe!

## with the “What’s Up Club”

### at Hanwell Observatory

22 Falcon Lane, Hanwell NB

A program to earn the “Explore the Universe Beginner’s Observing Certificate” from the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC)



This program runs from October to May in three 8-week sessions. Session One begins October 20 at 6:30 p.m. The full schedule is on the next page.

Captain Pluto will guide you through this interesting and informative program for children ages 8 to 16. You will learn about the moon, planets, constellations and bright stars, double stars, galaxies and other deep sky objects.

You will also learn how to use a telescope, and write down or draw what you see.

**Prizes**

**Orientation sessions**

**Star parties**

**Hot chocolate and cookies**

**T-shirt** (additional cost)

**Cost: \$30.00 for the program**

Includes instruction and all materials

The program is **tax deductible**, and is payable in two payments.

To register, send e-mail to [drudolph@hanwell.nb.ca](mailto:drudolph@hanwell.nb.ca)

and come to the public stargazing session Oct. 13 at 7:00 p.m.

# About the RASC Explore the Universe Observing Certificate

The Explore the Universe Observing Certificate is the first RASC certificate aimed at the novice astronomer. This program is designed to:

- Stimulate an interest in astronomy.
- Introduce good observing practices and techniques.
- Provide an introduction to all aspects of visual astronomy including stars and constellations, the moon, planets, deep sky, double stars and several optional activities, including variable stars.

This program can be completed entirely using binoculars and the unaided eye. A choice of objects is provided so that you can start the program at any time of the year and easily complete the requirements in three to six months time.

Out of a possible 110 objects, the explorer should find a minimum of 55 to meet the Explore the Universe program requirements.

Observing Objective	Required	Available
Constellations and Bright Stars	12	24
The Moon	16	32
Solar System	5	10
Deep Sky Objects	12	24
Double Stars	10	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>110</b>

Program participants will be encouraged to complete the certificate requirements, but it is not essential. The main thing is to have fun exploring the night sky. (It is possible to complete the requirements October to March.)

Instruction will be each Saturday at 6:30 p.m., with observing after 7 p.m. (weather permitting). Participants will be able to complete the observations at home during the week if Saturdays are cloudy.

Dates:

Session One	(Star Pilot)	Oct 20 to Dec 15
Session Two	(Star Navigator)	Jan 12 to Mar 2
BONUS Session Three	(Star Captain)	Mar 16 to May 18 (April 20 excluded)

Location:

22 Falcon Lane, Hanwell NB

Web site: <http://stars.hanwell.nb.ca>