

Virtual Cadette Night Owl Badge

Night has captured human imagination since the dawn of time. But with modern-day electricity, it's easy to overlook the mysteries and beauty of the world after the sun goes down. So grow your imagination and expand what you know (or think you know!). Turn out the lights, tune in your senses, and step out into the night.

1. Take a field trip to explore the night
2. Tour your world after dark
3. Meet people who work night hours
4. Explore nature at night
5. Host an Extreme Nighttime Party



Purpose: When you've earned this badge, I'll have uncovered the mysteries of the world after dark.

STEP 1: Take a field trip to explore the night.

Explore how night is featured in art.

- Choose at least three of the following readings or paintings. Use Facetime, call, etc. with family members, a friend they haven't seen a while. Note what you talk about and how the two of you may see something different in each piece of work.
1. [Starry Night painting by Vincent Van Gogh](#) (painting)
 2. [We grow Accustomed to the Dark poem by Emily Dickenson](#) (poem)
 3. [Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown](#) (book)
 4. [Nighttime Spirits poem by RoseAnn V. Shawiak](#) (poem)
 5. [The Great Comet of 1680 Over Rotterdam by Lieve Verschuie](#) (painting)
 6. [The Meteor of 1860 painting by Fredric Edwin Church](#) (painting)

Check out the "World After Dark Observatory Planetarium Virtual Field Trip" [here](#)

STEP 2: Tour your world after dark

Explore the Sky!

- Look up at the stars and find constellations. Spend at least 1 hour outside.

Stargazing- Go out in the right conditions. Stargaze when there is little or no moonlight and the sky isn't cloudy. Find an area away from street lamps, neon signs, and headlights. And give your eyes a half hour to adjust to the darkness. Bring some stargazing tools:

- Bring a sky map to help you identify what you see. With a good star map, there's no limit to what you can find!
- Borrow binoculars or a telescope to see these celestial sights more clearly and closer up.
- Keep a notebook with you to sketch what you see in the sky and to keep a record of your sightings. Before you know it, you'll have a long list of discoveries.
- Bring a flashlight to help you find your way and to see your notebook, compass or sky map.
- Consider using some stargazing apps such as Star Walk, Star Guide, Sky View, or Star Chart.
 - **Star Chart** FREE [iOS](#) and [Android](#)
 - **SkyView**® \$2 on [iOS](#) and [Android](#), but both platforms have a FREE lite version.
 - **Star Walk** \$3 for [iOS](#) and FREE for [Android](#)

STEP 3: Meet people who work night hours.

Visit one of the professions below and watch the three videos (or view the PDF) relating to the chosen profession.

Note what they do in the profession, how the night shift may differ from the day shift, how COVID has or may be affecting their profession, what their job entails and different positions within their profession and other things you found interesting.

- Make a Social Media Job Listing. Include anything people would like to know or may find interesting or intriguing. Don't forget to be creative! Limit your listing to 250 words or less, this is meant to be right to the point.

Nurse: [Video 1](#) | [Video 2](#) | [Video 3](#) | [Nurse PDF](#)

Firefighter: [Video 1](#) | [Video 2](#) | [Video 3](#) | [Firefighter PDF](#)

Construction Worker: [Video 1](#) | [Video 2](#) | [Video 3](#) | [Construction Worker PDF](#)



STEP 4: Explore nature at night

Bats are amazing nocturnal animals, active at night to feed on insects. Some of the 23 species of bats live in urban neighborhoods, so you may sometimes see or hear them in the early evening.

- View one of these videos:

[All About Bats](#), 5-minute video

[Fun facts About Bats](#), 7-minute video

Endangered Species, [San Diego Zoo- Bats](#)

- Explore ways to increase bat habitat:

Get tips on [Installing Bat Boxes](#)

[Nightly Flight Of Bats From A Big Bat Box](#)

Learn about research projects for bats at [Sweetwater Marsh in San Diego](#)

View [Secrets and Mysteries of Bats](#), 48-minute documentary

Check out many other resources, <http://www.batrescue.org/>

STEP 5: Host an Extreme Nighttime Party.

☐ Complete 3 out of the 4 activities.

1. Space Themed Movie Night – *Subscriptions and purchase may be required*

- [Hidden Figures](#) Available on Hulu |Prime | YouTube
- [The Martian](#) Available on Hulu |Prime |VUDU | YouTube
- [Gravity](#) Available on Apple TV |Prime |VUDU | YouTube
- [First Man](#) Available on Hulu| Prime | Apple TV| VUDU | YouTube
- [October Sky](#) Available on Hulu| Prime | Apple TV| VUDU | YouTube
- [Apollo 13](#) Available on Hulu| Prime | Apple TV| VUDU | YouTube
- [Mission Control](#) Available on Netflix
- [The Farthest](#) Available on Hulu |Prime |VUDU | YouTube



2. Space/Nighttime Themed Snacks

- [Edible Constellations](#)
- *Out of this World!* Popcorn-
[Smores Popcorn](#), [Trail Mix Popcorn](#), [25 Fun Popcorn Recipes](#)
- [Oreo Moon Phases](#)
- [Fruit kabob Rocket](#)
- Star shaped everything! [Rice crispy treats](#), cheese with crackers, sandwiches, cookies

3. “Power Down”

- Unplug for the night! Camp in your living room or yard, and do some activities that don’t use electricity.
- Tell “campfire [stories](#) and [songs](#)”- sit by the light of a candle/a fire/or a flashlight.
- Spend at least 3 hours with your family using no electricity or devices.
- Share memories of places the family has spent dark evenings or outdoor overnights

4. Learn About The Legends And Stories About The Stars And Constellations.

For centuries, storytellers invented legends about the night, like how constellations came to live in the sky. Find one of these stories to tell friends and family-or find your own constellation and tell how yours came to be.

- Check out legends about constellations! [Where do constellations come from?](#)
- [Native American Legends](#) about the night.