

Name: _____

A proper noun is the name of an object, place or thing. Underline the proper nouns in these sentences from the book.

The two bright stars near Crux, Alpha Centauri and Beta Centauri, are known as the pointers, because they appear to be pointing at the cross.

In 1610, two years after the invention of the telescope, the Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei built an improved telescope.

Among the Māori people of New Zealand, the stars were often called the children of the sky father, Ranginui.

Their two campfires can still be seen in the night sky, as the two stars that point to Crux, the Southern Cross.

Insert the missing proper nouns to complete these sentences from the book.

Asteroids, Magellanic Clouds, Sun, Jupiter, Sirius, Proxima Centauri

The Moon shines brightly, reflecting the light of the _____.

The closest star to Earth is _____, but it cannot be seen without a telescope.

_____ is a long way from Earth, but it is very large, so it can be seen in the night like a bright star.

_____ are large masses of rock and metal orbiting the Sun, resembling mini-planets.

The brightest star in the sky is _____.

The two _____ are two galaxies that can be seen clearly from the Southern Hemisphere.

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Answer these questions about the book in full sentences.

What causes crescent Moons, half Moons and gibbous Moons?

What causes a meteor shower?

What was so special about Comet Hale–Bopp?

What do the words 'binary star' mean?

How many constellations are officially recognised by the International Astronomical Union?

Who was the first person to discover that Saturn has rings?

How did the Māori people of New Zealand explain falling stars?
