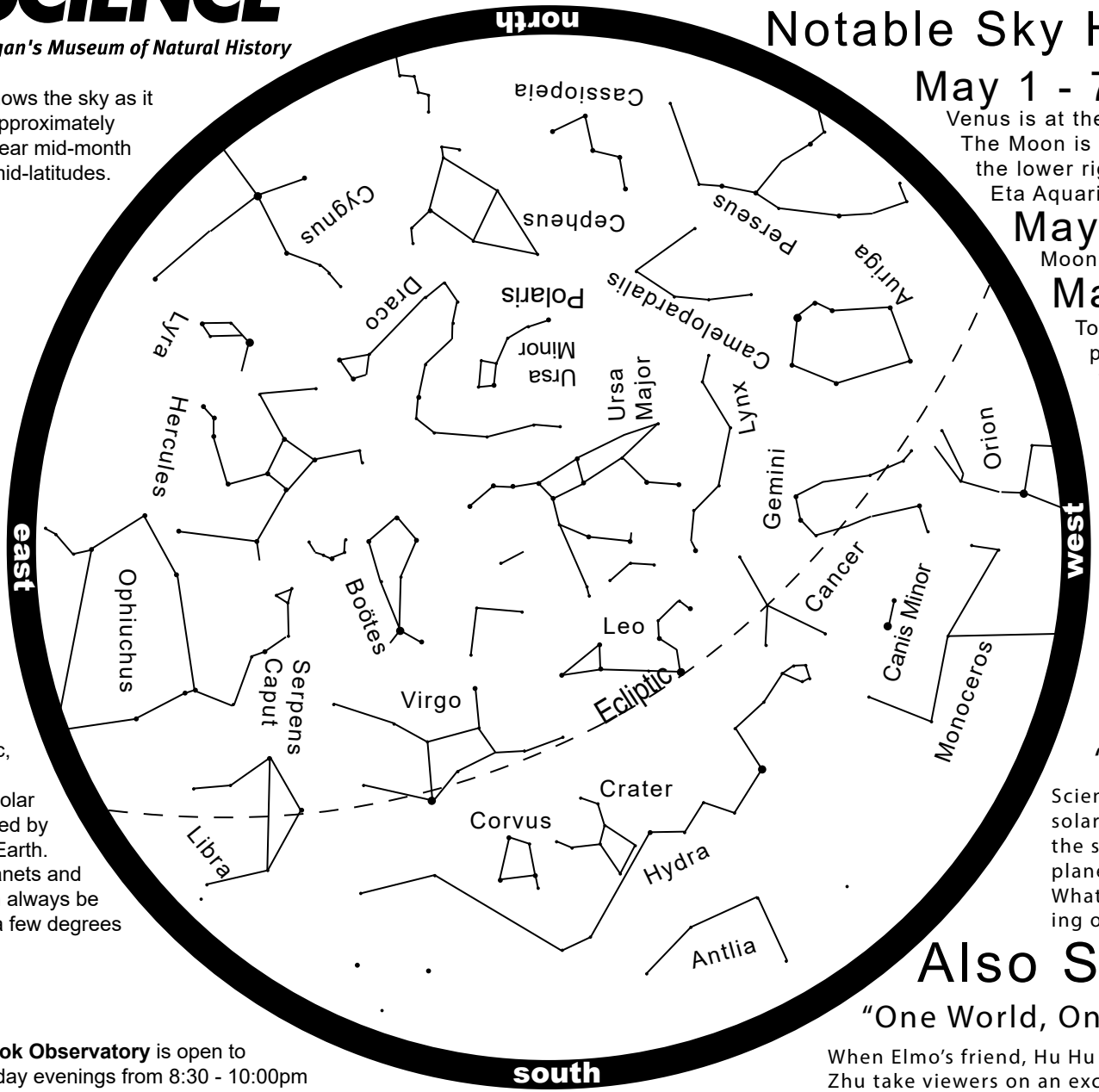
CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Michigan's Museum of Natural History

MAY 2022

Notable Sky Happenings

This chart shows the sky as it appears at approximately 10pm EDT near mid-month at northern mid-latitudes.



What is that dashed line? It's the ecliptic, the reference plane of the solar system, defined by the Sun and Earth. The major planets and the Moon can always be found within a few degrees of this plane.

The Cranbrook Observatory is open to the public Friday evenings from 8:30 - 10:00pm EDT, and the first Sunday of the month from 1:00 - 4:00pm for solar viewing.
Come have a look through our telescopes!
For observatory information visit
http://science.cranbrook.edu/explore/observatory

May 1 - 7

Venus is at the lower left of Jupiter on the 1st (E predawn). The Moon is to the right of Aldebaran and Mercury is at the lower right on the 2nd (WNW evening twilight) The Eta Aquarid meteor shower peaks the night of May 6.

May 8 - 14

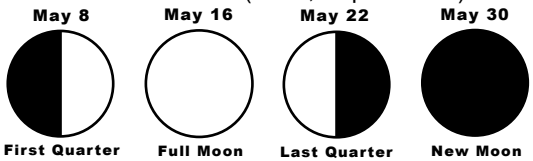
Moon is above Regulus on the 9th (SW evening).

May 15 - 21

Total lunar eclipse on the 15th: Umbral (darkest) phase begins 10:27pm EDT. Totality begins at 11:29pm. Maximum eclipse is 12:11am. Totality ends 12:53am. Umbral phase ends at 1:55am.

May 22 - 31

Moon is below Saturn (22nd, SE predawn). Moon is at the lower left of Jupiter, Mars is to the right (25th, ESE predawn) Moon is at the lower left of Venus (27th, E predawn).



Now Showing

"Birth of Planet Earth"

Scientists now believe that our galaxy is filled with solar systems, including up to a billion planets roughly the size of our own. How did Earth become a living planet in the wake of our solar system's violent birth? What does its history tell us about our chances of finding other worlds that are truly Earth-like?

Also Showing

"One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure"

When Elmo's friend, Hu Hu Zhu, visits from China. Big Bird, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu take viewers on an exciting discovery of the Sun, Moon, and stars. They learn about the Big Dipper and the North Star and take an imaginary trip to the Moon where they learn that the Moon is a very different place.

For astronomy information visit http://science.cranbrook.edu