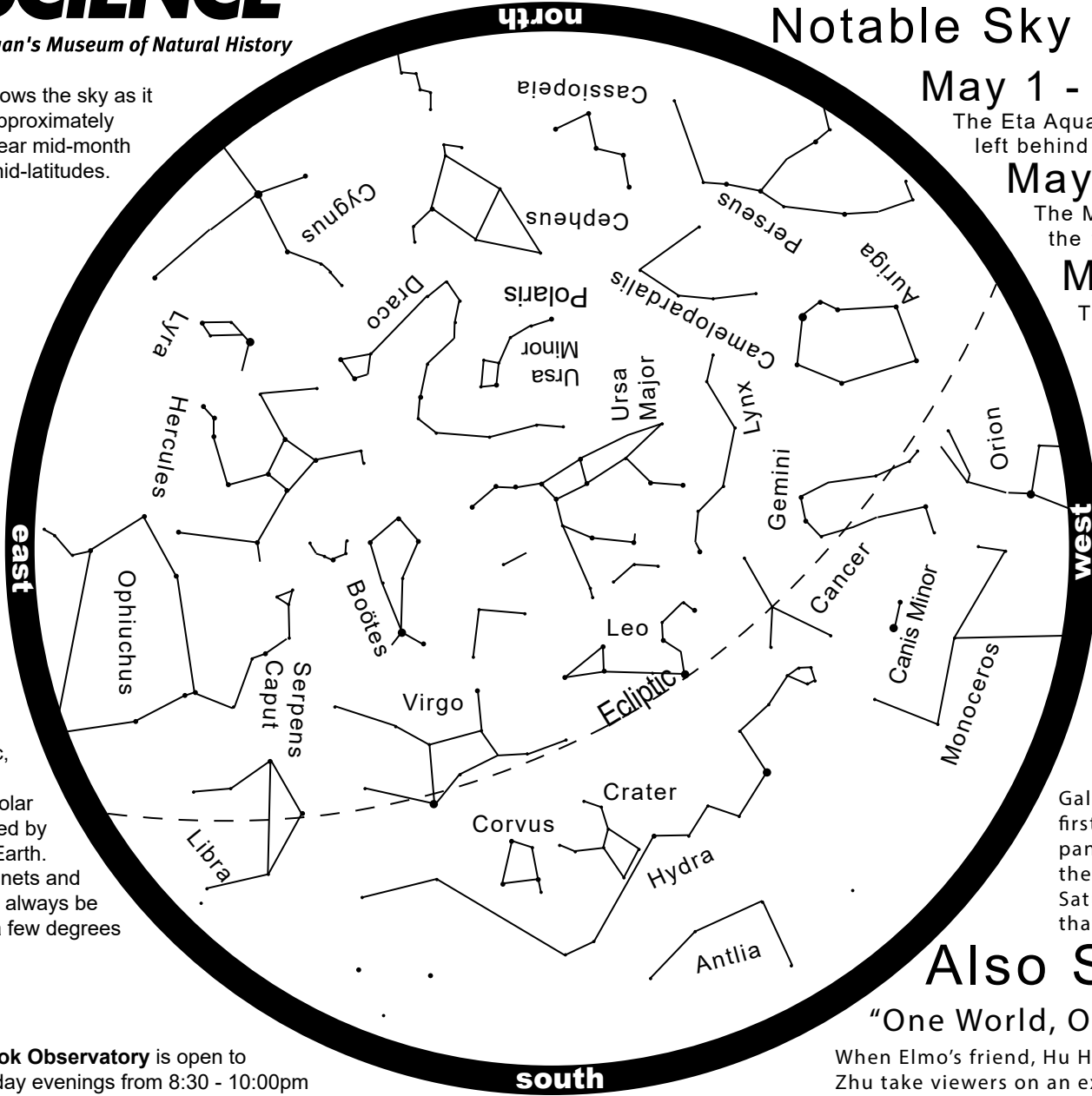


MAY 2024

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.

May 1 - 7

The Eta Aquarid meteor shower, produced by dust particles left behind by Halley's Comet, peaks the night of May 6.

May 8 - 14

The Moon is to the left of Pollux on the evening of the 12th, Castor is to the right (W evening).

May 15 - 21

The Moon is above and to the left of Regulus on the 15th (SW evening) and to the upper right of Spica on the 19th (S evening).

May 22 - 31

22nd: Apollo 10 tested the Lunar Excursion Module 55 years ago in preparation of the first manned Moon landing. The Moon is to the left of Antares on the 24th (S pre dawn) and below Saturn on the 31st (SE pre dawn).



Now Showing

"Two Small Pieces of Glass"

Galileo did not invent the telescope, but he was the first to use it to examine the sky. Telescopes have expanded our knowledge of the cosmos. We'll learn about the history of telescopes, explore the Galilean Moons, Saturn's rings, the structure of galaxies and view images that were made through our observatory telescope.

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>

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.

For observatory information visit <http://science.cranbrook.edu/explore/observatory>