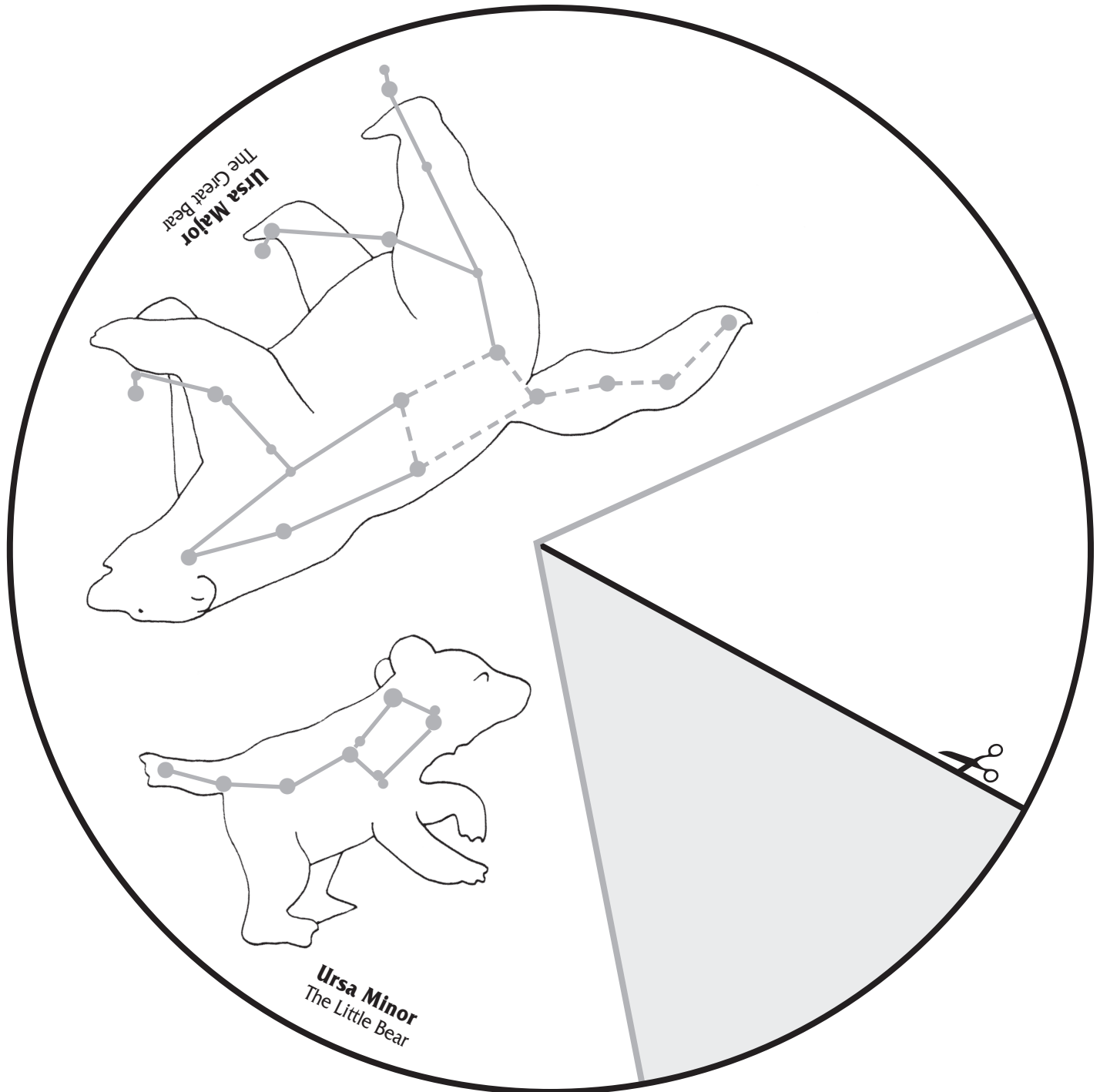


Big and Little Dipper Constellation Cone

The Big Dipper can be found in Ursa Major or The Great Bear. The Little Dipper can be found in Ursa Minor or The Little Bear.

It takes some imagination for stargazers to see bears in these star constellations.



Ursa Major

The Great Bear is one of the best known constellations in the sky. Most stargazers will find it in the northern part of the night sky, no matter what season.

Within the Great Bear is the most famous pattern of stars, the Big Dipper. This pattern has seven stars that look like a dipper or a pot with a handle.

Ursa Minor

Look for a little bear cub with a very long tail. The long tail is the handle of the Little Dipper.

At the end of the Little Dipper's handle you will see a very famous star called Polaris or the North Star. This star is not the biggest or brightest star in the sky. It is famous because it marks the point over the North Pole. The North Star does not move, it just sits in the north, always in the same spot as the other stars move around it throughout the night.