

REFLECTING ON AND TEACHING ASTRONOMY
Spring Break Homework: Due Monday, March 30, 2026

To insure that you don't forget all the astronomy you've learned so far, this assignment has two parts. The first is to think of the universe and the gratuitous gifts of the stars ... light, beauty, and the very substance of everything we know. The second is to hand on the knowledge of the sky that you have gained so far.

THE SPECIFIC TASKS YOU ARE TO ACCOMPLISH, WRITE ABOUT (on this sheet), AND HAND IN are

1 Take some time to "wander far alone" on a shining night and look at the stars. Reflect on Agee's poem and write a couple paragraphs about it ... are star-made shadows round? Do you weep for wonder of shadows on the stars? Does kindness watch for you? What do you think the author is saying in this poem? What does it mean to you?

REFLECT
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SURE ON THIS SHINING NIGHT BY JAMES AGEE:

Sure on this shining night
Of star-made shadows round,
Kindness must watch for me
This side the ground.
The late year lies down the north.
All is Healed, all is health.
High summer holds the Earth.
Hearts all whole.

Sure on this shining night
I weep for wonder wand'ring far alone
Of shadows on the stars.
On this shining night.

Teach

2 You are to TEACH AT LEAST ONE PERSON SOMETHING ABOUT THE SKY that you have learned in astronomy. You may teach them about the phases of the moon, the positions of the sun through the year, some constellations, or about stars. You must SHOW THEM SOMETHING IN THE ACTUAL SKY. Write about your experience: what you taught, what they learned, how they responded, and your reaction to having taught them.