

Our Night Sky for November 11th, 2024

As Christmas draws closer there may be someone in your life that has an interest in Astronomy. Depending on their level of interest and age and of course your budget there are many good options. A good start is a book with sky maps. My first choice would be NightWatch by Canadian Terence Dickinson, a good blend of information and simplified sky maps. You should avoid higher level sky maps because they very detailed and can be hard to read. National Geographic has a couple excellent books you could spend your whole budget on books. There are plenty of intermediate choices like red flashlights to protect your night vision. But next you will probably check on a broad variety of optics available. Please avoid any retail telescope under \$500, even if they say 600 power they will end up at the back of the closet.

If your person is quite keen you might consider a membership in our Astronomical Society which includes Membership in the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, including the Observers Handbook. If you want to move up to a proper modern telescope visit one of our open houses or contact a member for help.

Next week I will have information about the new robotic telescopes that are under \$1000.

. For that price range there are many very good binoculars available.

Add a tripod and you have a useful tool to explore Our Night Sky.