

Our Night Sky for May 11 th, 2026

You might find some of the sky objects I guide you to tonight familiar and that is what I was hoping for. The last several weeks we haven't had many planets or other interesting sky objects to look for in the spring skies. And after several weeks of similar skies you probably already know that bright Venus is close to setting but easy to find in the western sky once the sun is below the horizon at about 10 pm. And you have probably already spotted bright Jupiter still in the constellation Gemini well above due west. Pollux is the stick man on the left and Castor the man on the right. You might enjoy searching for the mythology, the stories shared in ancient times by people that were mostly illiterate. The stories built about the imagined shapes were the only shared entertainment for thousands and thousands of people over many hundreds of years.

Lets turn to due north, a couple of hand widths above the horizon you will see the W of Cassiopeia, rising to its summer position high in the eastern sky. My young daughters favorite constellation as it was right out her window when went to bed at night. A bit right is the easy to spot Cygnus the swan. With its wings spread up vertically from the horizon, up until the upper wing tip is just beside another very bright star Vega and the box shaped constellation Lyra attached like a kite below Vega. I'll remind you that a bit right of the lower left corner with your binoculars you may be able to spot the exploding remnant, the ring nebula, my daughter called the exploding cheerio, a beauty in Our Night Sky