

Junior Space Science Investigator Badge Orion Reference Sheet

Use the table below to learn more about the stars in Orion and their place in space.

Star Name	Distance in Light-Years	Skewer Length (cm)	Styrofoam Ball size	Color
Betelgeuse	640	18	Large	Red
Meissa	1050	10	Small	Blue
Bellatrix	240	26	Small	Blue
Alnitak	800	15	Small	Blue

Star Name	Distance in Light-Years	Skewer Length (cm)	Styrofoam Ball Size	Color
Alnilam	1340	5	Small	Blue
Mintaka	915	13	Small	Light Blue
Saiph	700	16	Small	White
Rigel	800	15	Large	Blue



Star Name	Pronunciation	Meaning	About the Star
Betelgeuse	BET-el-jooz	The hand or shoulder of Orion	A red supergiant star. If Betelgeuse were at the center of our Solar System, its surface would extend past the asteroid belt. Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars would all be inside the star. It is the 9th brightest star in the night sky.
Meissa	MAY-sah	The Shining One	A blue giant star. It is 10 times the diameter of the Sun!
Bellatrix	BEL-la-trix	Many meanings including female warrior	A blue-white giant star, about 6 times the diameter of the Sun! It is the 25th brightest star in the night sky.
Alnitak	ALL-nit-ahk	Many meanings, including "the girdle" or "belt"	A blue-white super-giant, about 20 times the diameter of the Sun.
Alnilam	ALL-nil-ahm	The sapphire	A blue-white star, about 30 to 40 times the diameter of the Sun.
Mintaka	MIN-ta-ka	The belt	A blue giant star, about 17 times the diameter of the Sun.
Saiph	SAFE	Sword of the giant	A blue giant star, about 20 times the diameter of the Sun.
Rigel	RYE-jel	The left foot	A blue-white super giant that is 80 to 115 times the diameter of the Sun and is part of a 3-star system. It is the 7th brightest star in the night sky.