

This chart shows the constellations as they might appear in the Northern Hemisphere in early November.

We've included the Big and Little Dippers, Orion and Taurus because they're well known and may help you find the constellations from this story.

A "real" star chart would be helpful in sorting through the many other stars and other objects you'll see on a good night! It would also help you find two other constellations from this story that we have chosen not to include:

Cetus is the whale, and is the monster that was sent to devour Andromeda. Cetus, however, is composed of somewhat dim stars and may not be easy to pick out, especially in an area with a great deal of city lights to interfere with your skywatching.

Pegasus is fairly easy to find, but we chose to leave him off because he did not appear in our version of the tale and because his constellation and Andromeda's are intertwined. (We wanted to give her a little exclusivity!)

Pegasus and Chrysaor are two winged horses that sprang from the neck of Medusa after her head was lopped off, the result of a liaison she had with Poseidon. In some minor versions of the story (including the movie "Clash of the Titans"), Perseus rides Pegasus, but in most, he's somewhat irrelevant and brings up issues we chose not to address.

For a very good astronomy web site with both star pictures, charts and information about the mythological origins of constellations, we recommend you visit the site of the Chandra X-ray Observatory mission. There is so much good astronomical stuff up there that we'll start you on our favorite page so you don't get to wandering around so much that you miss it:

*<http://chandra.harvard.edu/photo/constellations/perseus.html>*