Sidewalk Constellations

About:
When you know what to look for, constellations are a fun way to explore our night sky. In this activity you’ll draw with chalk and rocks during the daytime to learn about these constellations!

Objective:
To use Social Emotional Development and NGSS informed practices to learn about the night sky.

Age: 5-11   Expected time: 45 min

Activity
Materials – chalk, rocks

- Gather rocks from around your neighborhood
- Visit this website and print off the constellation cards: http://www.science-teachers.com/constellation_flashcards.htm
- With chalk, draw the constellation on the ground
- Place rocks where the stars would be
- Pick a few of your favorite constellations. These are abstract (you have to use your imagination) pictures. With the chalk, draw over your constellations what a realism (really looks like it) constellation in the sky would look like.
  - For example, this is the constellation for Pegasus the winged horse. That’s pretty abstract. Draw your version of a realism constellation of Pegasus. How would that look? Can you use the outline the constellation provides to draw Pegasus?
- Make your own constellation!

Wrap Up:
- Were there any constellations you already knew? Any new ones?
- Which constellation was your favorite?
- Are there any constellations that you want to learn more about?