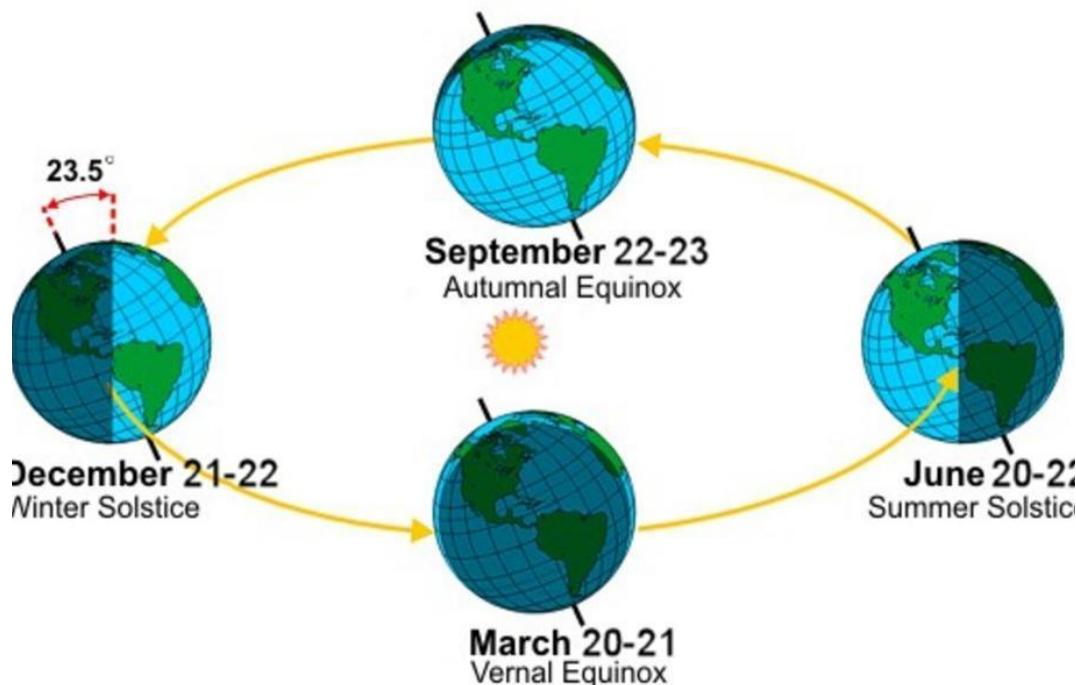




The Astrophile Newsletter

One Fond of Starlore: An Amateur Astronomer
 Insta: [@astrophile_edu](#); Facebook: [@astrophileeducation](#) Twitter: [@astrophileedu](#)

Autumn Equinox on September 22, 2020



Ideal day for measuring circumference of Earth as Eratosthenes

The Autumnal Equinox of 2020 will fall on September 22, 2020 at 7:00 PM IST. The Sun at this instant will be exactly over the equator and will then proceed into Southern Hemisphere. This day also marks the end of Summer Season in Northern Hemisphere and beginning of Summers in the Southern Hemisphere.

The annual journey of Sun from North to South and back to North crossing the Earth's equator twice is because of the tilt of the Earth. Due to the 23.5 degree tilt of the Earth's axis, imaginary lines like Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn are formed which outlines the maximum and minimum position of Sun at different times in the year. Also on this day, both the poles - North and South will be illuminated. Details will be shared soon over email.

Moon phases and dates

Important phases and dates for Moon to plan your observation

02/09/20	Full Moon	10:52
10/09/20	Third Quarter	14:55
17/09/20	New Moon	16:30
24/09/20	First Quarter	07:24

Mars
 The red planet is shining bright in the late evening skies, rising late in the evening, the planet is showing great features these days with the clear skies and lack of sand storm on Mars.

Venus
 The sister planet is now visible in the morning skies and can be seen early in the morning 2-3 hours before the sunrise. The planet is showing half the disk and currently growing.

Jupiter
 Jupiter is now rising just before sunset and will be visible all night long, The planet is shining bright in the evening skies and giving photographers and observers a chance to explore.

Saturn
 The ringed planet will be shining bright all night long. The planet is shining bright in the evening skies and giving photographers and observers a chance to explore.

Astrophile Asteroid hunting from Sep 11

Astrophile - International Asteroid Search Campaign

September 11 - October 06, 2020
 Participation via online Training Program
 Certificates by NASA

For Registration & Details, Visit
www.astro-phile.com

Eligibility: Grade 9 to 12, Indian Schools
 Last date for registration: September 05

astro-phile.com  @astrophileeducation  @astrophile.edu  @astrophileedu  astrophileeducation@gmail.com 

Students of grade 9 onwards registered with any Indian school now get an opportunity to join us in a 4 week long asteroids hunting project organised by Astrophile Education and IASC. The project will start from September 11 and registration will end on Sept 5. A recent arrangement with IASC has helped lowering of prices.

The project will allow students to work on real-time scientific data to assess and identify the previously unknown asteroids in the solar system. The students will get training online where they can join us Zoom to learn.

Read details here: <https://astro-phile.com/students-to-hunt-asteroids-from-september-11/>

International Observe the Moon Night on Sept. 26



Astrofile Education will conduct a virtual global "International Observe the Moon night on **September 26, 2020**. "International Observe the Moon Night" is a worldwide celebration of lunar science and exploration held annually since 2010. One day each year, everyone on Earth is invited to observe and learn about the Moon together, and to celebrate the cultural and personal connections we all have with our nearest neighbour. The event occurs in September or October when the Moon is around first quarter. A first quarter Moon is visible in the afternoon and evening, a convenient time for most hosts and participants. Furthermore, the best lunar observing is typically along the dusk/dawn terminator, where shadows are the longest, rather than at full Moon.

CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECT FOR PRESERVING NIGHT SKIES

Astrofile Education is committed to create environment for everyone to be involved in science and the best way forward to via citizen science projects. The students and the grown ups are all facing a severe challenge to view the stars from their cities due to increasing light pollution.

The development of the city, with more flyovers and commercial complexes, wider roads, and growing cities has caused major light pollution. With air pollution also increasing, the light pollution will become severe and hence we need to quantify.

The project will encourage students and grown ups to participate by evaluating our skies through a systematic manner. The data collected will be evaluated for quantification of light pollution in the city. This will help us understand the amount of light pollution and then in future how the changes have been taking place. If you have an idea to reduce the light pollution, we would like to incorporate in our studies of the sky and hence we would like to reach out to the government for implementation of the ideas.

This is not a short term project and requires commitment and dedication from the observers and contributors. The data needs to be collected on a regular basis and also should be accurate in terms of the sky conditions. This will enable us to fight the problem together and win our skies back. Visit the link: <https://astro-phile.com/citizen-science/> for more details.