

1  
00:00:07,979 --> 00:00:11,519  
Your guide to constellations, deep-sky objects,

2  
00:00:11,519 --> 00:00:16,318  
planets, and events.

3  
00:00:16,320 --> 00:00:23,800  
Tonight's Sky, highlights of the March Sky.

4  
00:00:35,619 --> 00:00:37,899  
For the first half of March,

5  
00:00:37,899 --> 00:00:45,339  
Mars and Venus appear in the western sky after sunset.

6  
00:00:53,119 --> 00:00:56,199  
Catch them early, because late in the month,

7  
00:00:56,259 --> 00:01:02,699  
Venus slips below the horizon before twilight ends.

8  
00:01:07,400 --> 00:01:10,000  
During the final week of March, though,

9  
00:01:10,000 --> 00:01:12,560  
Mercury takes the place of Venus

10  
00:01:12,560 --> 00:01:17,519  
low above the western horizon.

11  
00:01:21,400 --> 00:01:23,980  
Try to glimpse the small planet

12  
00:01:23,980 --> 00:01:29,219  
before it disappears from view.

13  
00:01:37,500 --> 00:01:38,879  
In the late evening,

14  
00:01:38,879 --> 00:01:44,939  
watch for Jupiter rising in the east.

15  
00:01:48,540 --> 00:01:52,140  
A telescope will reveal the gas planet's dark

16  
00:01:52,140 --> 00:01:53,570  
cloud bands.

17  
00:01:53,569 --> 00:02:00,849  
A large telescope might reveal the Great Red Spot.

18  
00:02:14,740 --> 00:02:17,240  
As the brilliant stars of winter

19  
00:02:17,240 --> 00:02:18,879  
progress toward the west,

20  
00:02:18,879 --> 00:02:22,419  
the constellations of spring make their appearance.

21  
00:02:22,460 --> 00:02:26,360  
Two March constellations  
derived from Greek mythology,

22  
00:02:26,360 --> 00:02:30,140  
Gemini and Cancer, lie in the zodiac.

23  
00:02:30,139 --> 00:02:33,299  
The zodiac is the name for the band of sky

24  
00:02:33,319 --> 00:02:35,539  
through which the Sun, Moon,

25  
00:02:35,539 --> 00:02:38,500  
and planets appear to travel.

26  
00:02:38,509 --> 00:02:41,739  
The Gemini twins lie high overhead.

27  
00:02:41,740 --> 00:02:44,180  
They were among Jason's Argonauts,

28  
00:02:44,180 --> 00:02:51,099  
who sailed the seas searching for the Golden Fleece.

29  
00:02:58,900 --> 00:03:02,560  
The two bright stars are the heads of the brothers,

30  
00:03:02,560 --> 00:03:07,379  
Castor and Pollux.

31  
00:03:07,379 --> 00:03:12,219  
A fuzzy patch lies near the "feet" of the Gemini twins.

32  
00:03:12,219 --> 00:03:14,080  
Called M35,

33  
00:03:14,080 --> 00:03:20,480  
it is a pretty cluster of several hundred stars.

34  
00:03:37,419 --> 00:03:40,439  
Cancer is often identified as a crab

35  
00:03:40,439 --> 00:03:46,079  
but has also been seen as a lobster or crayfish.

36  
00:03:46,080 --> 00:03:47,719  
In Greek mythology,

37  
00:03:47,719 --> 00:03:50,960  
Cancer was placed in the heavens by Hera,

38  
00:03:50,960 --> 00:03:54,780  
wife of Zeus, to immortalize its tenacious

39  
00:03:54,780 --> 00:03:59,259  
but futile battle with Hercules.

40  
00:04:01,340 --> 00:04:04,840  
It is a much dimmer constellation than Gemini,

41  
00:04:04,840 --> 00:04:08,479  
and hard to see in light-polluted skies.

42  
00:04:08,479 --> 00:04:15,299  
Within Cancer lies the lovely Beehive Cluster.

43

00:04:15,300 --> 00:04:20,819  
Ancient stargazers called it "the cloudy  
star."

44  
00:04:20,829 --> 00:04:24,629  
This large cluster contains hundreds of stars

45  
00:04:24,629 --> 00:04:31,468  
and lies about 577 light-years away from us.

46  
00:04:45,860 --> 00:04:52,819  
Saturn appears in the southeast in the pre-dawn hours.

47  
00:05:06,160 --> 00:05:12,400  
Use a telescope to spy its famous rings.

48  
00:05:17,339 --> 00:05:21,719  
The night sky is always a celestial showcase.

49  
00:05:21,730 --> 00:05:27,129  
Explore its wonders from your own backyard.