



1
00:00:00,266 --> 00:00:02,201
[■]

2
00:00:02,234 --> 00:00:04,370
[Narrator] What's Up for March?

3
00:00:04,403 --> 00:00:05,805
Jupiter in the morning,

4
00:00:05,838 --> 00:00:07,306
the start of spring,

5
00:00:07,339 --> 00:00:09,042
and a visit to the Beehive.

6
00:00:10,476 --> 00:00:12,478
Jupiter greets early
risers all month long.

7
00:00:12,511 --> 00:00:15,415
Look low in the southeast
an hour before sunrise.

8
00:00:15,448 --> 00:00:18,151
(And if you have an unobstructed
view toward the horizon,

9
00:00:18,184 --> 00:00:20,753
you'll be able to spot
Saturn and Venus as well,

10
00:00:20,786 --> 00:00:23,322
a bit lower in the sky.)

11
00:00:23,355 --> 00:00:26,292
March marks the 40th
anniversary of the Voyager 1

12

00:00:26,325 --> 00:00:30,630

spacecraft's flyby
of Jupiter, in 1979.

13

00:00:30,663 --> 00:00:33,599

Voyager gave us our first
detailed, close-up look at the

14

00:00:33,632 --> 00:00:35,602

giant planet and its moons.

15

00:00:36,769 --> 00:00:38,938

March also brings the
beginning of spring

16

00:00:38,971 --> 00:00:40,206

in the Northern Hemisphere,

17

00:00:40,239 --> 00:00:43,243

starting on the 20th,
with the Spring Equinox.

18

00:00:44,310 --> 00:00:46,579

Equinoxes occur twice a year,
in spring and fall,

19

00:00:46,612 --> 00:00:49,882

on the dates when day and night
are of equal length.

20

00:00:49,915 --> 00:00:52,485

From here until the beginning
of fall, in September,

21

00:00:52,518 --> 00:00:54,487

daytime will be
longer than nighttime,

22

00:00:54,520 --> 00:00:56,522

as the Sun

travels a longer,

23

00:00:56,555 --> 00:00:58,825

higher arc across
the sky each day,

24

00:00:58,858 --> 00:01:01,327

reaching a peak at
the start of summer.

25

00:01:01,360 --> 00:01:04,764

It's just the opposite in the
Southern Hemisphere,

26

00:01:04,797 --> 00:01:07,967

where March 20th marks
the fall Equinox.

27

00:01:09,535 --> 00:01:11,170

The arrival of spring in the
Northern Hemisphere

28

00:01:11,203 --> 00:01:13,639

brings fresh flowers and
the buzzing of bees,

29

00:01:13,672 --> 00:01:15,875

which makes
March a great time

30

00:01:15,908 --> 00:01:17,944

to try to spot the
Beehive Cluster.

31

00:01:17,977 --> 00:01:22,215

This grouping of young stars
sits about 600 light years away

32

00:01:22,248 --> 00:01:24,450

and consists of

several hundred stars

33

00:01:24,483 --> 00:01:27,020
that are only a few
hundred million years old.

34

00:01:27,720 --> 00:01:31,057
That's compared to our Sun's
four-and-a-half billion years.

35

00:01:31,524 --> 00:01:34,894
Although the Beehive can be seen
as a small fuzzy patch

36

00:01:34,927 --> 00:01:37,497
with unaided eyes
under dark skies,

37

00:01:37,530 --> 00:01:40,133
it's best viewed
with binoculars.

38

00:01:40,166 --> 00:01:41,634
To find the Beehive Cluster,

39

00:01:41,667 --> 00:01:45,238
look south and follow a
line from brilliant Sirius

40

00:01:45,271 --> 00:01:48,040
■ the brightest star
in the sky ■

41

00:01:48,073 --> 00:01:49,475
upward and slightly to the left,

42

00:01:49,508 --> 00:01:52,178
toward another of the sky's
brightest stars, Procyon.

43

00:01:52,211 --> 00:01:55,615

Continue that path about the
same distance upward

44

00:01:55,648 --> 00:01:58,918

and then a couple of finger
widths to the left.

45

00:01:58,951 --> 00:02:01,120

While the Beehive
Cluster is visible

46

00:02:01,153 --> 00:02:03,956

in the first half of the
night all month long,

47

00:02:03,989 --> 00:02:05,791

the best times to
look for it

48

00:02:05,824 --> 00:02:08,194

are the first and last
weeks of the month,

49

00:02:08,227 --> 00:02:10,963

as the Moon shines
brightly mid -month,

50

00:02:10,996 --> 00:02:15,535

making faint objects like this
cluster more difficult see.

51

00:02:15,568 --> 00:02:17,737

And here are the phases
of the Moon for March.

52

00:02:20,573 --> 00:02:22,575

You can catch up on all
of NASA's current

53

00:02:22,608 --> 00:02:26,212
and future missions at nasa.gov

54

00:02:26,245 --> 00:02:29,715
That's all for this month.

55

00:02:29,748 --> 00:02:30,883
[NASA / Jet
Propulsion Laboratory