



**MARS**



**WINTER CIRCLE**



**GEMINI**

1  
00:00:04,550 --> 00:00:02,629

[Music]

2  
00:00:06,630 --> 00:00:04,560

what's up for february

3  
00:00:07,990 --> 00:00:06,640

this month we follow the moon to three

4  
00:00:09,430 --> 00:00:08,000

different points of interest in the

5  
00:00:11,509 --> 00:00:09,440

winter sky

6  
00:00:13,509 --> 00:00:11,519

first up excitement about the red planet

7  
00:00:14,789 --> 00:00:13,519

is building as nasa prepares to land its

8  
00:00:17,990 --> 00:00:14,799

latest rover there

9  
00:00:19,910 --> 00:00:18,000

called perseverance on february 18th

10  
00:00:21,510 --> 00:00:19,920

you'll find mars high in the west after

11  
00:00:23,349 --> 00:00:21,520

sunset all month long

12  
00:00:26,230 --> 00:00:23,359

it should be visible all evening setting

13  
00:00:27,910 --> 00:00:26,240

around or soon after midnight local time

14

00:00:30,070 --> 00:00:27,920

on the night of nasa's planned mars

15

00:00:32,389 --> 00:00:30,080

landing you'll find the half full moon

16

00:00:33,910 --> 00:00:32,399

right next to the red planet so go out

17

00:00:35,990 --> 00:00:33,920

and have a look with your own eyes

18

00:00:38,229 --> 00:00:36,000

especially if you were one of the nearly

19

00:00:40,229 --> 00:00:38,239

11 million people whose names traveled

20

00:00:43,030 --> 00:00:40,239

to mars with perseverance etched into

21

00:00:44,950 --> 00:00:43,040

one of three microchips

22

00:00:46,630 --> 00:00:44,960

staying with the moon in february it

23

00:00:48,310 --> 00:00:46,640

next drifts through a part of the sky

24

00:00:48,869 --> 00:00:48,320

that contains a familiar pattern of

25

00:00:51,590 --> 00:00:48,879

stars

26  
00:00:53,910 --> 00:00:51,600  
also called an asterism this is the

27  
00:00:56,310 --> 00:00:53,920  
winter circle or winter hexagon

28  
00:00:58,790 --> 00:00:56,320  
a ring of six bright stars that spans a

29  
00:01:00,709 --> 00:00:58,800  
very wide region of the sky

30  
00:01:02,389 --> 00:01:00,719  
the winter circle contains two other

31  
00:01:04,630 --> 00:01:02,399  
special groupings of stars

32  
00:01:05,910 --> 00:01:04,640  
the constellation orion and another

33  
00:01:07,750 --> 00:01:05,920  
wintertime asterism

34  
00:01:09,030 --> 00:01:07,760  
the winter triangle made of the bright

35  
00:01:11,830 --> 00:01:09,040  
stars sirius

36  
00:01:13,510 --> 00:01:11,840  
beetlejuice and procyon like their

37  
00:01:15,190 --> 00:01:13,520  
counterpart the summer triangle

38  
00:01:17,429 --> 00:01:15,200

the winter circle and winter triangle

39

00:01:18,710 --> 00:01:17,439

are signposts of the season

40

00:01:20,550 --> 00:01:18,720

in the northern hemisphere you'll see

41

00:01:22,149 --> 00:01:20,560

them rising in the east early in the

42

00:01:24,230 --> 00:01:22,159

evening during the time of long

43

00:01:25,350 --> 00:01:24,240

cold nights and setting in the west

44

00:01:28,070 --> 00:01:25,360

earlier and earlier

45

00:01:30,230 --> 00:01:28,080

as the season turns to spring watch on

46

00:01:32,310 --> 00:01:30,240

february 20th through the 22nd as the

47

00:01:35,990 --> 00:01:32,320

moon moves across the winter circle

48

00:01:37,749 --> 00:01:36,000

growing a bit fuller each evening

49

00:01:40,630 --> 00:01:37,759

finally the moon continues on its

50

00:01:43,510 --> 00:01:40,640

journey visiting the twins of gemini

51  
00:01:45,030 --> 00:01:43,520  
unlike asterisms gemini is one of the 88

52  
00:01:46,550 --> 00:01:45,040  
official constellations

53  
00:01:48,469 --> 00:01:46,560  
used by astronomers to help them

54  
00:01:49,510 --> 00:01:48,479  
describe the locations of objects in the

55  
00:01:52,069 --> 00:01:49,520  
sky

56  
00:01:54,069 --> 00:01:52,079  
the two bright stars castor and pollux

57  
00:01:56,069 --> 00:01:54,079  
form the heads of the inseparable twins

58  
00:01:58,069 --> 00:01:56,079  
from roman and greek mythology for which

59  
00:02:00,469 --> 00:01:58,079  
the constellation is named

60  
00:02:02,550 --> 00:02:00,479  
on february evenings gemini is located

61  
00:02:05,109 --> 00:02:02,560  
high overhead in the south

62  
00:02:06,389 --> 00:02:05,119  
on the 23rd the moon is here just below

63  
00:02:08,790 --> 00:02:06,399

pollux

64

00:02:10,309 --> 00:02:08,800

nasa also has a history with gemini as

65

00:02:12,790 --> 00:02:10,319

it was the name of the human space

66

00:02:14,309 --> 00:02:12,800

flight program in the 1960s that tested

67

00:02:16,070 --> 00:02:14,319

technology and capabilities in

68

00:02:17,030 --> 00:02:16,080

preparation for the apollo missions to

69

00:02:18,710 --> 00:02:17,040

the moon

70

00:02:20,150 --> 00:02:18,720

but while the constellation is

71

00:02:21,589 --> 00:02:20,160

pronounced gemini

72

00:02:23,670 --> 00:02:21,599

not everyone knows that the name of the

73

00:02:26,470 --> 00:02:23,680

nasa program was usually pronounced

74

00:02:27,510 --> 00:02:26,480

gemini within the space agency however

75

00:02:29,990 --> 00:02:27,520

you want to pronounce it

76

00:02:31,589 --> 00:02:30,000

is fine just make sure you go out and

77

00:02:34,229 --> 00:02:31,599

catch the moon's visit with gemini on

78

00:02:35,670 --> 00:02:34,239

the 23rd

79

00:02:38,550 --> 00:02:35,680

here are the phases of the moon for

80

00:02:42,150 --> 00:02:40,229

you can catch up on all of nasa's

81

00:02:44,229 --> 00:02:42,160

missions to explore the solar system and

82

00:02:45,670 --> 00:02:44,239

beyond at [nasa.gov](http://nasa.gov)

83

00:02:47,350 --> 00:02:45,680

i'm preston dykes from nasa's jet