
WHAT'S UP
SKYWATCHING HIGHLIGHTS
MARCH 2023
NASA

1
00:00:06,050 --> 00:00:02,110
[Music]

2
00:00:09,530 --> 00:00:06,060
what's up for March Venus climbs High

3
00:00:11,509 --> 00:00:09,540
while Jupiter Dives sunward and the

4
00:00:14,390 --> 00:00:11,519
little planet that shares its namesake

5
00:00:16,550 --> 00:00:14,400
with your breakfast cereal Venus and

6
00:00:18,650 --> 00:00:16,560
Jupiter begin the month very close

7
00:00:20,510 --> 00:00:18,660
together in the evening Sky following

8
00:00:22,310 --> 00:00:20,520
their close conjunction on March 1st

9
00:00:23,269 --> 00:00:22,320
they quickly go their separate ways

10
00:00:25,370 --> 00:00:23,279
though

11
00:00:26,929 --> 00:00:25,380
Venus climbs higher in the sky each

12
00:00:29,929 --> 00:00:26,939
night for the next couple of months

13
00:00:31,970 --> 00:00:29,939

while Jupiter Dives after the Sun

14
00:00:33,770 --> 00:00:31,980
the giant planet appears lower in the

15
00:00:36,530 --> 00:00:33,780
sky each night through the month making

16
00:00:38,569 --> 00:00:36,540
its exit as an evening object it'll

17
00:00:41,750 --> 00:00:38,579
reappear in May in the pre-dawn sky with

18
00:00:43,790 --> 00:00:41,760
Saturn on the 23rd and 24th in the

19
00:00:46,310 --> 00:00:43,800
couple of hours after Sunset you'll find

20
00:00:48,410 --> 00:00:46,320
the moon as a beautifully slim Crescent

21
00:00:50,930 --> 00:00:48,420
hanging just below and the next night

22
00:00:53,690 --> 00:00:50,940
above blazing bright Venus

23
00:00:56,029 --> 00:00:53,700
then on the 25th the moon continues

24
00:00:58,189 --> 00:00:56,039
upward in the Sky Landing right next to

25
00:01:00,350 --> 00:00:58,199
the brilliant Pleiades star cluster that

26
00:01:02,510 --> 00:01:00,360
night

27
00:01:04,430 --> 00:01:02,520
March bringing the arrival of spring in

28
00:01:06,050 --> 00:01:04,440
the Northern Hemisphere and fall in the

29
00:01:08,149 --> 00:01:06,060
southern hemisphere it's a time for both

30
00:01:10,010 --> 00:01:08,159
planting or harvesting crops depending

31
00:01:11,929 --> 00:01:10,020
on where you live so it's perhaps a

32
00:01:13,969 --> 00:01:11,939
fitting time to try and spot the planet

33
00:01:16,969 --> 00:01:13,979
named for a mythical goddess of

34
00:01:18,649 --> 00:01:16,979
agriculture grains and fertile lands in

35
00:01:22,550 --> 00:01:18,659
addition to being the origin of the word

36
00:01:24,649 --> 00:01:22,560
cereal that's dwarf planet series

37
00:01:26,570 --> 00:01:24,659
this month it's at opposition meaning

38
00:01:28,850 --> 00:01:26,580

it's directly on the opposite side of

39
00:01:30,830 --> 00:01:28,860
Earth from the sun this is when a planet

40
00:01:32,870 --> 00:01:30,840
is around its shortest distance from

41
00:01:34,609 --> 00:01:32,880
Earth making this the best time to have

42
00:01:35,510 --> 00:01:34,619
a go at observing it when it's at its

43
00:01:37,850 --> 00:01:35,520
brightest

44
00:01:40,490 --> 00:01:37,860
Ceres is the largest object in the main

45
00:01:43,670 --> 00:01:40,500
asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter

46
00:01:45,530 --> 00:01:43,680
still it's only about 600 miles wide far

47
00:01:47,630 --> 00:01:45,540
smaller than our own Moon

48
00:01:50,149 --> 00:01:47,640
its Dusty surface is peppered with

49
00:01:51,710 --> 00:01:50,159
impact craters with bright salt deposits

50
00:01:54,830 --> 00:01:51,720
here and there that hint at the

51
00:01:56,090 --> 00:01:54,840
possibility of slushy Briny ice beneath

52
00:01:59,090 --> 00:01:56,100
its surface

53
00:02:01,370 --> 00:01:59,100
in fact NASA's Dawn spacecraft found

54
00:02:03,530 --> 00:02:01,380
that Ceres could be up to one-quarter

55
00:02:05,510 --> 00:02:03,540
water ice on the inside

56
00:02:07,310 --> 00:02:05,520
now series is too faint to see with the

57
00:02:09,589 --> 00:02:07,320
unaided eye so to locate it in the

58
00:02:11,029 --> 00:02:09,599
marched Sky you'll need binoculars or a

59
00:02:14,150 --> 00:02:11,039
small telescope

60
00:02:17,270 --> 00:02:14,160
find the lion constellation Leo in the

61
00:02:19,729 --> 00:02:17,280
Southeast after around 9pm the bright

62
00:02:22,010 --> 00:02:19,739
bluish white star regulus the Lion's

63
00:02:24,350 --> 00:02:22,020

Heart should catch your eye first then

64
00:02:26,630 --> 00:02:24,360
look Eastward about 25 degrees to find

65
00:02:29,150 --> 00:02:26,640
the nebula which represents the Lion's

66
00:02:31,010 --> 00:02:29,160
Tail from there series should be about

67
00:02:33,650 --> 00:02:31,020
eight or nine degrees farther east from

68
00:02:35,869 --> 00:02:33,660
the nebula it appears as a faint

69
00:02:37,550 --> 00:02:35,879
star-like point of Light which is why

70
00:02:39,110 --> 00:02:37,560
when series and objects like it were

71
00:02:41,690 --> 00:02:39,120
first discovered in the early 19th

72
00:02:43,430 --> 00:02:41,700
century they were called asteroids which

73
00:02:46,490 --> 00:02:43,440
means star-like

74
00:02:48,170 --> 00:02:46,500
since 2006 Series has been classified as

75
00:02:49,729 --> 00:02:48,180
a dwarf planet along with other

76
00:02:52,910 --> 00:02:49,739
diminutive worlds in our solar system

77
00:02:54,470 --> 00:02:52,920
including Pluto aerys haumea and

78
00:02:56,690 --> 00:02:54,480
makimaki

79
00:02:59,150 --> 00:02:56,700
wherever you land on the topic of Planet

80
00:03:01,790 --> 00:02:59,160
vs dwarf planet status for worlds like

81
00:03:03,830 --> 00:03:01,800
Ceres and Pluto what's really important

82
00:03:05,990 --> 00:03:03,840
to remember is that the way we think

83
00:03:08,390 --> 00:03:06,000
about different families of objects in

84
00:03:10,610 --> 00:03:08,400
our solar system has evolved over time

85
00:03:13,190 --> 00:03:10,620
and likely will continue to evolve as we

86
00:03:14,809 --> 00:03:13,200
explore and learn more about them so

87
00:03:17,390 --> 00:03:14,819
here's hoping you try your hand at

88
00:03:20,570 --> 00:03:17,400

spotting series as you explore the skies

89
00:03:22,250 --> 00:03:20,580
above your home planet this month

90
00:03:24,890 --> 00:03:22,260
here are the phases of the moon for

91
00:03:28,910 --> 00:03:26,930
stay up to date with all of NASA's

92
00:03:32,210 --> 00:03:28,920
missions to explore the solar system and

93
00:03:34,009 --> 00:03:32,220
Beyond at nasa.gov I'm Preston Dykes