



Astronomy Club Challenge - 2/12/10

Want help finding the stars and planets?

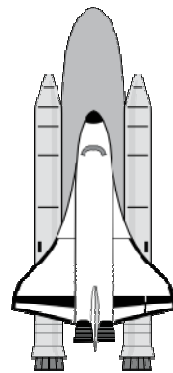
Stellarium is a free planetarium for your computer. It shows a realistic sky in 3D, just like what you see with the naked eye, binoculars or a telescope. It is being used in planetarium projectors. Just set your coordinates and go!

<http://www.stellarium.org/>



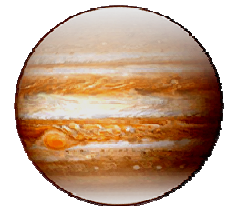
Space Shuttle Launch

The second last shuttle launch (Space Shuttle Discovery STS-133) is due at 8.52 AM Dec 3rd. Watch it on NASA TV in room 12.



The moons of Jupiter

Jupiter is the really bright star that is shining in the early evening sky. With a small telescope or a good pair of binoculars it should be possible to see (a) the bands of cloud around the planet; and (b) up to four pin pricks of light in a line level with the centre of the planet: these are its four largest moons Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto.



The Following International Space Station sightings are possible from Friday November 19th until Saturday December 4th:

http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/cities/view.cgi?country=United_Kingdom®ion=England&city=Durham

| LOCAL DATE/TIME | DURATION (MIN) | MAX ELEV (DEG) | APPROACH (DEG-DIR) | DEPARTURE (DEG-DIR) |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Fri Dec 03/05:44 AM | 1 | 32 | 31 above S | 24 above SE |
| Fri Dec 03/07:17 AM | 3 | 42 | 15 above WSW | 36 above SSE |
| Sat Dec 04/06:09 AM | 2 | 41 | 33 above SW | 30 above SE |

