



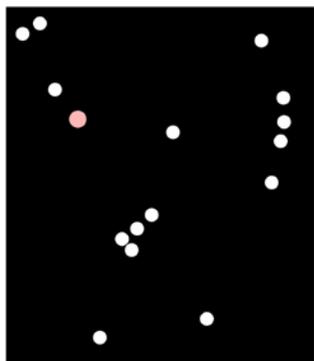
# Learn about Badlands National Park!

## Connect the Constellation

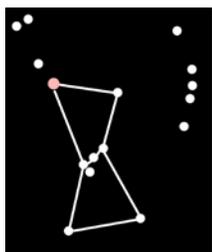
Badlands is famous for its beautiful scenery. One of the most beautiful sights here isn't the *landscape*, though, but rather the *skyscape*. Because the park is located so far away from cities' bright lights, it is easier to see the twinkles and glows of stars, planets, satellites, and other celestial phenomena in the dark night.

While gazing into the dark night, people throughout history have seen stories in the sky. They have linked stars together to form special groups called *constellations*.

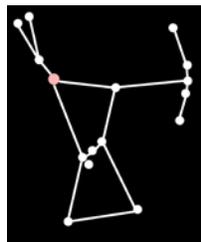
You may recognize this cluster ...



which people group like this...



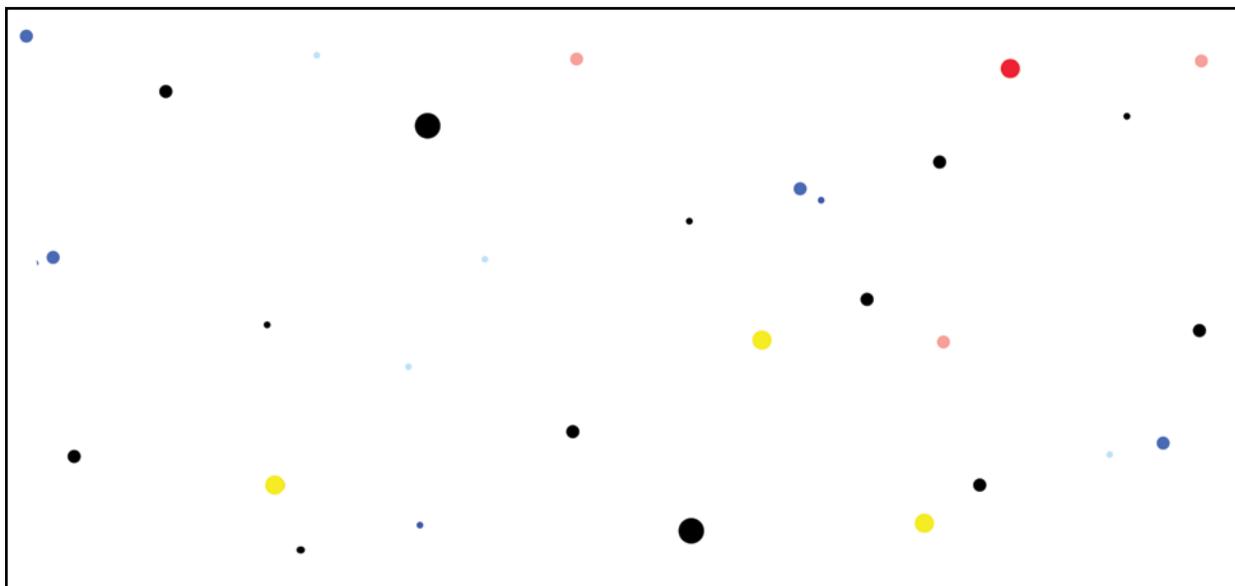
or this ...



... to make a constellation depicting Orion the Hunter.

According to Ancient Greek mythology, Orion brandishes a club and/or lion's skin as he and his faithful hunting dogs chase the hare through the night. It is easy to see the three stars that form his belt, as well as the red giant Betelgeuse, which marks one of his shoulders.

What stories do you see in the skyscape? \_\_\_\_\_  
Choose stars to connect into your very own constellation(s).



For more information about official constellations and astronomy in general, visit the website of the International Astronomical Union : <http://www.iau.org/> You can also learn about light pollution and find out what you can do to see more stars from the International Dark-Sky Association : <http://www.darksky.org/>