TABLE 1: Familiar looking celestial objects.

Name of object	Looks like	Constellation location
Owl Nebula	Owl's face	Ursa Major the Great Bear
Helix Nebula	Eyeball	Aquarius the Water Bearer
Tarantula Nebula	Tarantula	Dorado the Dolphin
Butterfly Nebula	Butterfly	Scorpius the Scorpion
Snake Nebula	Dark Nebula, snake-shape	Ophiuchus the Healer
Dark Shark Nebula	Dark Nebula, shark-shape	Cepheus the King
Manatee Nebula	Florida manatee	Aquila the Eagle

May

01 Mercury at inferior conjunction
03 Moon–Spica conjunction
04 Moon at descending node
Star Wars Day
05 Eta-Aquarid meteor shower
Penumbral lunar eclipse
Full Moon
National Astronaut Day
06 Space Day
07 Moon–Antares conjunction
08 Mars–Pollux conjunction
09 Uranus in solar conjunction
10 Moon at perigee: 229,500 miles (369,345 km)
12 Last quarter Moon
13 Moon–Saturn conjunction
17 Moon–Jupiter occultation or close conjunction
Moon at ascending node
Moon–Mercury conjunction
19 New Moon
23 Moon–Venus conjunction
Moon–Pollux conjunction
24 Moon–Mars conjunction
25 Moon at apogee: 251,350 miles (404,510 km)
Towel Day
27 First quarter Moon
28 Mercury at greatest elongation: 24 9°W
29 Venus–Pollux conjunction
30 Mars at aphelion: 1.66594 AU (154,858,797 miles; 249,221,077 km)
31 Moon–Spica conjunction

June

01 Moon at descending node
03 Moon–Antares conjunction
Full Moon
04 Venus at greatest elongation: 45.4°E
06 Moon at perigee: 226,713 miles (364,860 km)
08 World Ocean Day
09 Saturn 3.0°N of Moon
10 Last quarter Moon
13 Moon at ascending node
14 Moon–Jupiter conjunction
15 Moon–Pleiades conjunction
16 Mercury–Aldebaran conjunction
Moon–Mercury conjunction
17 New Moon
20 Moon–Pollux conjunction
21 June Solstice
Moon–Venus conjunction
22 Moon–Mars conjunction
Moon at Apogee: 226,713 miles (405,385 km)
23 Moon–Regulus conjunction
26 First quarter Moon
27 Mercury at perihelion
Moon–Spica conjunction
28 Moon at descending node
30 Mercury at superior conjunction
Asteroid Day

Visible planets

Mercury's relatively short orbital period is obvious during this two-month period as the innermost planet completes approximately one half of its orbit traveling from inferior conjunction to superior conjunction while briefly appearing in the morning skies.

Venus moves further east from the Sun, rising later and becoming more visible each day as the brightest evening planet. Follow Venus at sunset each day as it moves eastward, almost catching up with Mars.

Our Moon, following the hybrid solar eclipse from last month, will pass through the Earth's fainter outer shadow, for a penumbral lunar eclipse. However, this will not be visible from North America.

Mars is visible above the southwestern horizon to the west from the star Regulus in the constellation of Leo the Lion.

Dwarf planet Ceres is moving eastward toward the stars of the constellation of Virgo the Harvest Maiden, but Ceres's apparent magnitude remains too dim for Ceres to be visible without optical assistance.

Jupiter is visible above the eastern horizon as it rises one to two hours before sunrise.

Saturn rises about two hours before Jupiter and so is well placed and visible above the southeastern horizon as the Sun rises.