Orion is a constellation—a pattern of bright stars that astronomers use to map out the night sky. Named by astronomers long ago, the constellations still aid stargazers looking for particular stars.

Many constellations are named after people and creatures from Greek and Roman myths. Orion was a giant, a son of the ocean god, and a skillful hunter killed by the sting of a huge scorpion.

From Earth, the stars in Orion may look close together and related, but they are actually hundreds of light-years apart.