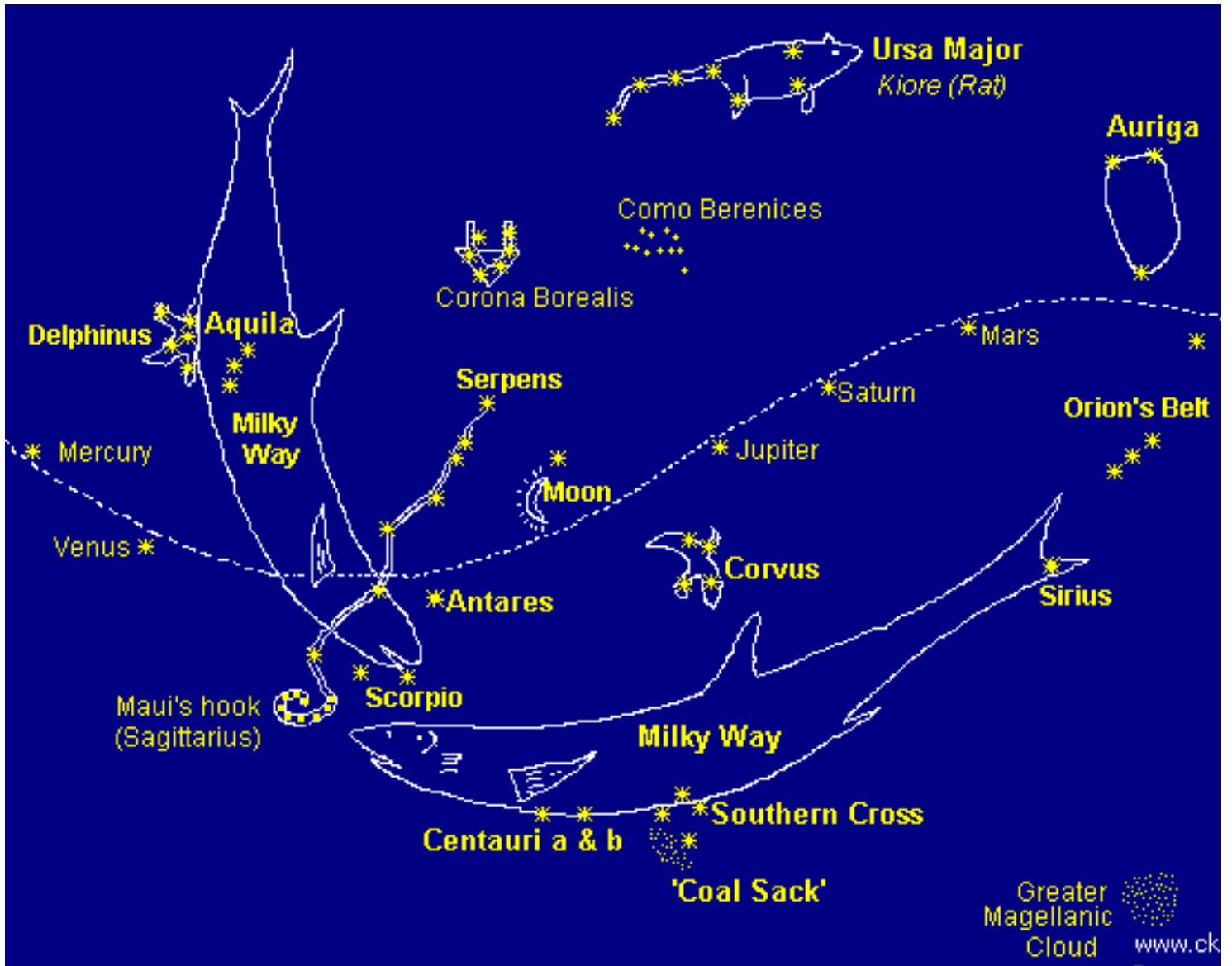




# PUKAPUKAN STAR CHART



Pukapuka is a beautiful remote island in the Cooks Islands group in the Pacific Ocean. The Island harbors a lagoon with water so clear you can see great forests of coral deep below the ocean's surface. Humans have inhabited the island since at least 300 BC. The Pukapukans are famous sailors and navigators. This version of a Pukapukan star map shows the names of the constellations we use in the United States, but with the Polynesian references using the legends, and ocean creatures with which they were familiar. For instance, they saw the Milky Way as two large sharks. What else might you be able to tell is important to Pukapukan culture by their constellations outlined on this chart? <http://www.ck/pukapuka.htm>





## ASTRONOMICAL CHART ON THE CEILING OF THE KITORA TOMB



This star chart carved into the ceiling of the Kitara Tomb located in Asuka, Japan, is believed to be one of the world's oldest. The map of the night sky charts 68 constellations with the stars represented in gold leaf. Three concentric circles are drawn with red pigment, showing the movement of celestial objects, one of which is the sun. One thing that has confused researchers is the area of sky the chart depicts. Some researchers say the chart depicts the night sky as it was in China 1,500 to 2,100 years ago. Other researchers think the chart depicts night sky as it was in Korea about 2,000 years ago. The Kitara chart was redrawn with explanations by University of Iowa research fellow Steve Renshaw. Can you find the sun on this star chart?

<https://www.cnet.com/news/mysterious-ancient-star-chart-shows-foreign-skies/>







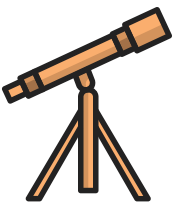
# FIRST NATIONS STAR CHART



These are the constellations of the Ojibway, Cree, Blackfoot, and other First Nations of what is now known as Canada. From the names of these constellations, what are some things you can tell are important to folks from these cultures?

<https://wildernessastronomy.com/resources/starchart-first-ever-overview-of-the-canadian-constellations/>





## INCAN NEBULAE ASTRONOMICAL CHART



Photo by Koricancha Sun Temple/Cusco

The Incas grouped constellations into two different types - luminous and dark. The first was made up of sparkling stars that depicted geometric forms in the sky. These luminous constellations were seen as inanimate. The other kind - the dark cloud constellations - were contained within the dark blotches of the Milky Way, and were considered living forms, representing animals the Incas knew. These dark patches represented the silhouettes of animals that came to drink from the waters of celestial river, obscuring the heavenly glow of Mayu.

<https://futurism.com/the-dark-constellations-of-the-incas>

