



Star search mark II

This week sees the continuation of National Science Week, which spotlights the quirky and the vital work of our boffins.

One of the more interesting projects is something called *The Big Aussie Star Hunt*, which on the surface seems a rival for *Australian Idol* in the new celebrity stakes.

However, a closer look reveals the hunt is on to count stars in neighbourhoods across Australia to create a national light pollution map.

Organisers say light pollution confuses wildlife and makes star spotting difficult.

By visiting *The Big Aussie Star Hunt* website, you can get the tools to identify stars and constellations such as the Southern Cross and Scorpius and to find south without a compass. You can also read about indigenous astronomy, take a solar system quiz, measure the sky using only your hands and have a chance to win \$2000 of ABC Shop goodies by counting stars.

● Visit www.starhunt.net.au for more details.