EAAE Monthly
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR ASTRONOMY EDUCATION
ADVANCED ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS

Arp248

For this month we have selected a view for the skilled. If you have a large telescope the challenge for this evening will be 5.5 degrees south of Beta Virginis, and half degree to the west (the celestial equatorial coordinates are Right Ascension 11º46'45" and Declination -03º50'53"). Commonly known as ''Wild's Triplet,'' the Arp 248 group are three very small interacting galaxies. To see them you will need a very steady and clear sky in order to take full advantage of your 9-mm eyepiece. Use wide aversion, and try to keep the star just north of the trio at the edge of the field to cut glare. Be sure to mark your Arp Galaxy challenge list!

Arp248.
Credit: Instituto de Astrofisica de Canárias (IAC).
(Click on the image to see a bigger image)

The best thing is to try to make a picture of the sky area around the triplet.
You can see the location of Arp 248 at Jim Burnell's CCD images webpage.

Links:

Atlas of Peculiar Galaxies-Wikipedia
Jim Burnell's CCD images webpage
Arp Atlas of Peculiar Galaxies