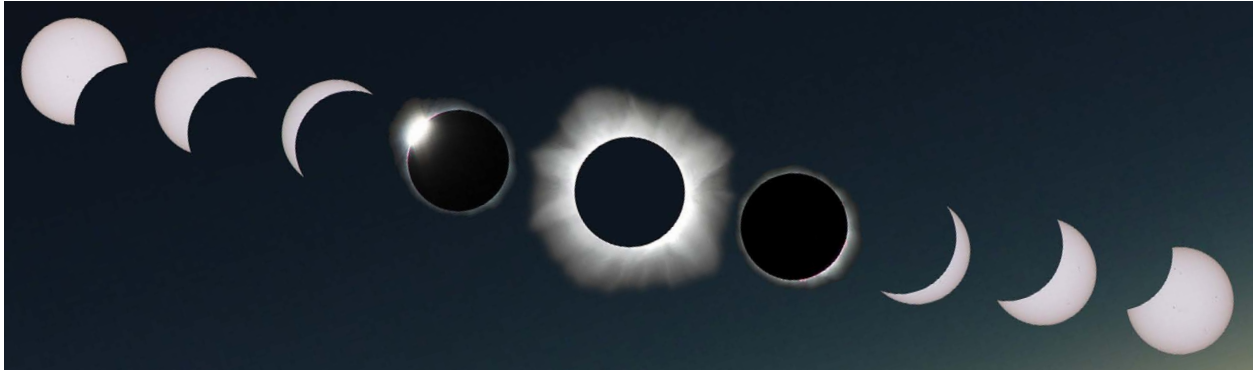


State Libraries Take Part in the 2017 Eclipse Across America on Monday, August 21, 2017



2012 Eclipse Sequence by Rick Fienberg (AAS)

State Library Agencies Can Help Promote the 2017 Solar Eclipse

Monday August 21, for the first time in almost 100 years a solar eclipse will sweep across the landscape of the U.S. from Oregon to South Carolina. On that day, effects of the eclipse, from total coverage of the Sun to partial coverage, will touch every state in the continental U.S. Communities are going to be interested in what is happening up in the sky. State Library Agencies (SLAs) can play a central role in engaging their public libraries around this significant astronomical occurrence, helping to prepare and enliven interest in this impactful event. Whether a library chooses to be involved on the day of the event and/or offers eclipse-programming leading up to the event, librarians as respected leaders in the community can offer guidance and resources.

What is a Solar Eclipse?

A solar eclipse takes place when the Moon moves in front of the Sun, casting a shadow upon Earth's surface. Because of the Moon's apparent diameter being larger than the Sun (as seen from Earth) in some places the Moon will fully cover the Sun causing a total solar eclipse for those along the path of totality. Key observations for people along this 60-mile wide path include the Sun's corona and lunar features such as mountains and craters. Others outside of the path will observe a partial eclipse or a fraction of the Sun covered by the Moon. Check the [U.S. Eclipse Map](#) to find out your state's coverage and timing of the eclipse. The eclipse lasts only a few minutes, but the memory of the event for spectators can last a lifetime.



Credit: NASA

Solar Eclipse Information and Resources

The resources listed below are everything a state library needs to know about the eclipse in order to promote the event to their public library members including information about: 1) safe solar viewing; 2) eclipse programming opportunities; 3) event planning; and, 4) other safety precautions. The NASA@ My Library project team and COSLA are also here to help! Go to the COSLA website www.cosla.org for a full list of solar eclipse resources, links, and downloadable activities. For a more in-depth eclipse informational experience, join the COSLA-hosted "State Libraries Take Part in the 2017 Eclipse Across America" webinar on May 9th at 2 p.m. ET with the NASA@ My Library team and advisors on solar viewing.

Solar Viewing

Approved solar viewing devices-Information direct from NASA on solar viewing.

<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/2017-total-solar-eclipse-across-america>

SLAs can receive eclipse glasses in bunches of 1,000 – SLAs should contact the Space Science Institute directly to receive these glasses at aholland@spacescience.org.

Preparing to view the Sun – Review many different ways of viewing the sun.

<http://www.starnetlibraries.org/2017eclipse/eclipse-resource-center/event-planning/safety/>

Eclipse Event Safety Info

Large Crowd Safety

http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/Documents/health-promotion-wellness/injury-violence-free-living/Injury_Prevention_Fact_Sheet_Series/Safety-in-Large-Crowds.pdf

Food & Water Safety

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/food-water-safety>

Heat & Hydration

<https://www.cdc.gov/extremeheat/>

Eclipse Activities and Resources

STAR_Net Libraries' Eclipse Resource Center – A variety of eclipse resources and activities.

<http://www.starnetlibraries.org/2017eclipse/eclipse-resource-center/>

STEM Activity Clearinghouse – Eclipse activities appropriate for library use.

http://clearinghouse.starnetlibraries.org/index.php?id_category=124&controller=category

Travel and Vehicle Safety Info

Federal Highway Administration's Fact Sheet

<https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop16085/index.htm>

Camping Health & Safety Tips

<https://www.cdc.gov/family/camping/>

Vehicle & Travel Safety Tips

<https://www.ready.gov/car>

Safety In and Around The Car

<https://www.safercar.gov/parents/InandAroundtheCar/InandAroundtheCar.htm>

The Space Science Institute through its STAR_Net program has 2,100 public libraries (and counting) registered to host eclipse events and programs in their communities! SLAs can help be a part of this growing movement.

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