

Solar Eclipse Information and Permission Slip

Dear Parents and Guardians of BRCVPA students,

On Monday, August 21, 2017, a solar eclipse will be visible across all of North America. Although there are some parts of the country where a total eclipse will be visible, only a partial eclipse will be visible in our area. During a partial eclipse, the Moon comes between the Sun and Earth, but the Moon only partially covers the Sun's disk.

While this event creates an excellent learning opportunity for our students, there are some important safety guidelines that should be followed. Please read the information below.

Please Note: Looking directly at the Sun during this partial eclipse is unsafe and can have very harmful effects on your vision. The only way to safely look directly at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed Sun is through special-purpose solar filters, also known as "eclipse glasses". Homemade filters or ordinary glasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the Sun. To date, only four manufacturers have certified that their eclipse glasses and handheld viewers meet the international standard for such products. These manufacturers include: Rainbow Symphony, American Paper Optics, Thousand Oaks Optical, and TSE 17. (eclipse.aas.org) Our eclipse glasses were purchased through Explore Scientific and were manufactured by Thousand Oaks Optical.

Our plan for the day is below.

- Students with a signed permission slip will pick up a bagged lunch from the cafeteria and eat outside with their class. They will be outside when the eclipse begins at 11:54 AM. We have certified eclipse glasses available to purchase for \$1.00.
- At 12:30, students will start rotating through 6 different stations with their classes. Stations are designed for students to experience the eclipse in different ways. Our stations include the following: observation, art, reading, drama, engineering, and music.
- We will finish our stations as the eclipse ends at 2:54 PM.
- Please bring a water bottle to help stay hydrated!

We are also looking for parent volunteers! Please indicate on the permission slip if you want to help us make this event fun and engaging!



Note: Certified eclipse glasses are available for purchase for only \$1.00!

We are excited to share this experience with your child. If you have further questions, please contact Mrs. Dafoe at kdafoe@ebrschools.org

Thanks!
Mrs. Dafoe

Safety Guidelines

(Found on <https://eclipse.aas.org/sites/eclipse.aas.org/files/AAS-Solar-Eclipse-Safety-v170210.pdf>)

- Always inspect your solar filter before use; if scratched or damaged, discard it. Read and follow any instructions printed on or packaged with the filter. Always supervise children using solar filters.
- Stand still and cover your eyes with your eclipse glasses or solar viewer before looking up at the bright Sun. After glancing at the Sun, turn away and remove your filter. Do not remove it while looking at the Sun.
- Do not look at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed Sun through an unfiltered camera, telescope, binoculars, or other optical device. Similarly, do not look at the Sun through a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while using your eclipse glasses or handheld solar viewer. The concentrated solar rays will damage the filter and enter your eye(s), causing serious injury. Seek expert advice from an astronomer before using a solar filter with a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device.
- If you do not have eclipse glasses, an alternative method for safe viewing of the partially eclipsed Sun is pinhole projection. For example, cross the outstretched, slightly open fingers of one hand over the outstretched, slightly open fingers of the other. With your back to the Sun, look at your hands' shadow on the ground. The little spaces between your fingers will project a grid of small images on the ground, showing the Sun as a crescent during the partial phases of the eclipse

A solar eclipse is one of nature's grandest spectacles. By following these simple rules, you can safely enjoy the view and be rewarded with memories to last a lifetime.

More information can be found by visiting the following websites:

eclipse.aas.org eclipse2017.nasa.gov

<https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/in/@z-us-70808>

Note: The information shared in this letter does not constitute medical advice. Contact a qualified eye-care professional with further questions.



Solar Eclipse Permission Slip

Please fill out the following form and return it to BRCVPA by Friday, August 18th. If the permission slip is not returned by this date, your child will not be able to participate in our Solar Eclipse Day.

____ I have read the school plan and give my child, _____, permission to view the solar eclipse on August 21, 2017 and am sending \$1.00 for eclipse glasses.

____ I have read the school plan and DO NOT give my child, _____, permission to view the solar eclipse on August 21, 2017.

____ I want to volunteer during the event. My email address is _____.

Note: If you do not give your child permission to view the eclipse, he/she will be provided with an alternate activity during this time.

Student Name: _____ Homeroom Teacher: _____

Parent Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____

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