

Name _____

Watching a Solar Eclipse

Solar eclipses are rare and amazing events to watch. They occur when the Moon moves between the Earth and the Sun. Imagine the sky during an eclipse. The Moon blocks most of the Sun's light. Part of the Earth becomes dark. Sometimes the Moon hides nearly all of the Sun. At that moment, people see a dark circle surrounded by what looks like a ring of fire. A solar eclipse does not happen often. Many people pay special attention to news that a solar eclipse will happen near them.

Since eclipses are such an uncommon event, people make special plans to observe them. First they need to prepare. People should never look directly at the Sun. The Sun's harmful rays can damage their eyes, so people need eye protection. They can make a viewer out of a long box and aluminum foil. Or they can use special glasses. With the right protection, people can enjoy these amazing events in the sky.

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