

# April 8th, 2024 Solar Eclipse

As most of Ontario prepares for this rare celestial event, discover the wonders of solar eclipses with your child! The resources below offer hands-on activities, safety tips, and resources for a fun and educational experience.

## Solar Eclipse Facts

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the earth and the sun, blocking out the sun either partially or completely. On April 8th, 2024 parts of Southern Ontario will experience a rare total eclipse where the sun will be completely blocked from visibility. This area of total eclipse is called the path of totality. Here in Sudbury, we will experience a partial eclipse between 2:00–4:30pm where approximately 90% of the sun will be blocked.

Although partial eclipses occur every two years, Canada has not had a total eclipse since 1979 and will not have another one until 2044.

## Safety

Looking at the sun directly is never a safe thing as it can cause permanent damage to your vision. To view the sun during an eclipse, certified solar glasses or viewers must be worn. No other glasses or welding helmets are safe for viewing the sun. The following are a few options for purchasing solar glasses:

<https://www.monarchbutterflyeclipse.com/collections/solar-glasses>

<https://funique.ca/en/shop/safe-eclipse-glasses/>

<https://solareyewear.ca/>

## Helpful Resources

Government of Canada

<https://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/astronomy/eclipses/solar-eclipses.asp>

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

<https://rasc.ca/eclipse2024>

American Astronomical Society

<https://eclipse.aas.org/>

## Learning At-Home Activities

Visit Science North or view a live stream on:

<https://www.timeanddate.com/live/eclipse-solar-2024-april-8>

Read books about solar eclipses: There are many great children's books that explain what a solar eclipse is and how it happens. Reading together is a great way to learn.

Draw or paint the solar eclipse: Get creative and make artwork inspired by the solar eclipse.

Organize a solar eclipse viewing party: Parents can invite friends and neighbours to watch the eclipse together. Provide solar eclipse glasses for everyone to safely view the event.

Create a pinhole projector: This is a fun and easy science experiment. All you need is a piece of paper, a pin, and the sun!

<https://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/youth-educators/activities/fun-experiments/eclipse-projector.asp>