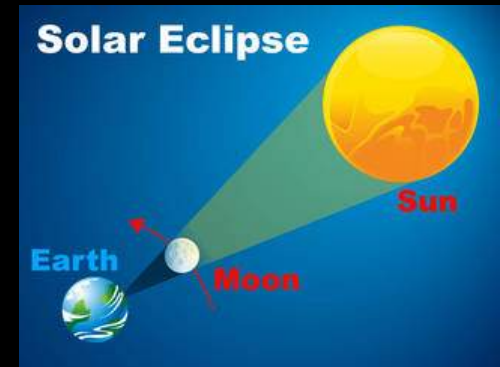


I am going to see a solar eclipse!



**A story for preparing your child for the
solar eclipse on August 21, 2017**



On August 21st, there is going to be a solar eclipse.

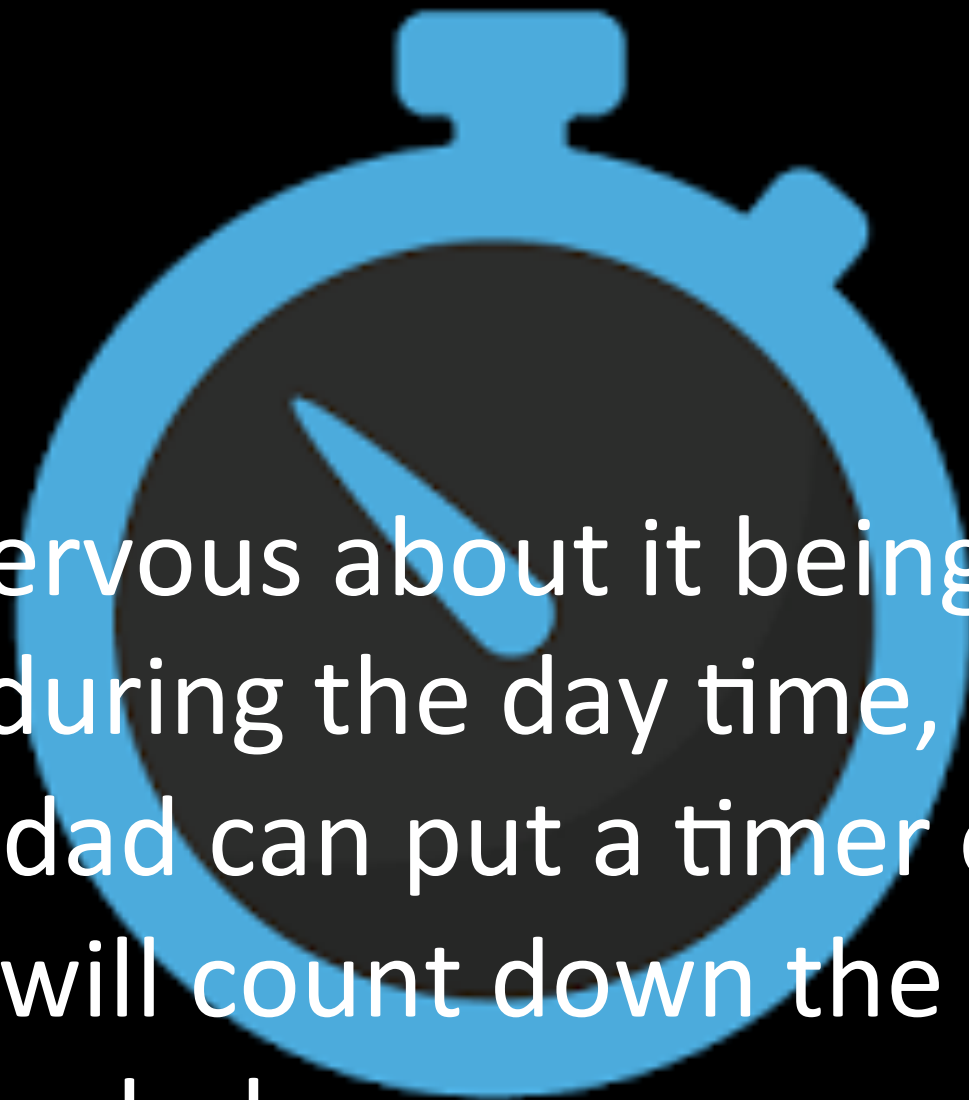
During a solar eclipse, the moon passes in front of the sun and creates a bright ring in the sky.

The last solar eclipse in the United States happened 38 years ago!

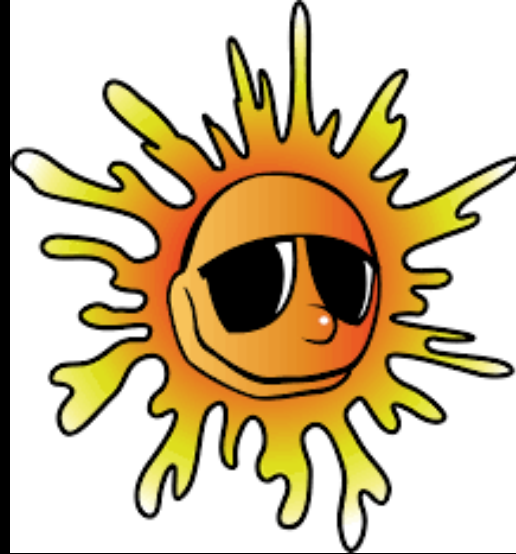
The solar eclipse will start in Oregon and end in South Carolina.

When the eclipse happens, it will start to get dark outside during the day time. It will be very dark, like night time, for 3 or 4 minutes.





If I am nervous about it being dark outside during the day time, my mom or dad can put a timer on for me that will count down the time left in the darkness.



If I want to go outside to see the solar eclipse, I might have to wear special glasses.



The glasses will look like this. These glasses are like the ones I wear when I see 3D movies at the movie theater. I can practice wearing my glasses before the eclipse.



During the eclipse, it might get colder outside. I can wear a jacket or bring a blanket if I want to go outside during the eclipse.

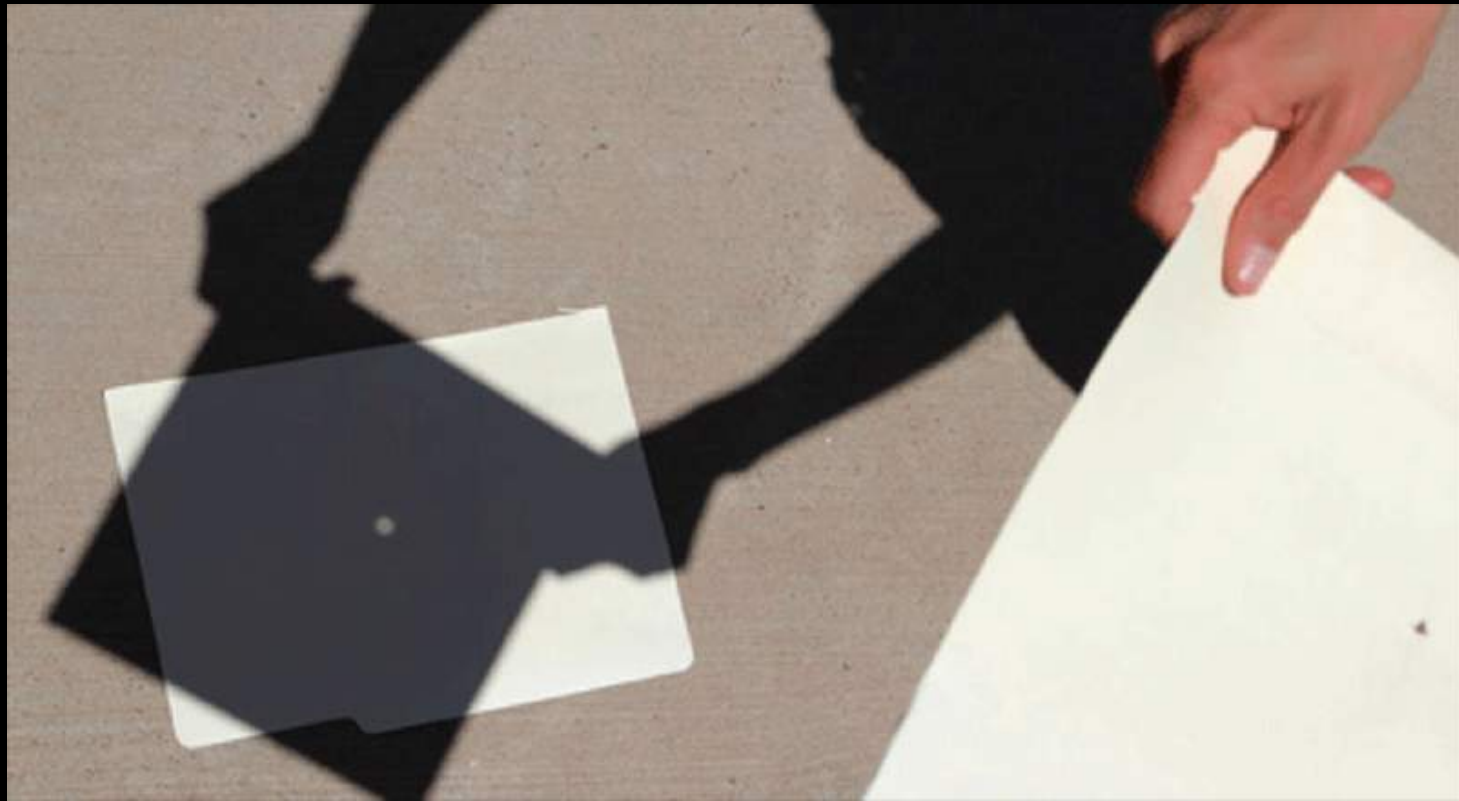


It is okay if I feel nervous about the solar eclipse. I can read this story with my mom or dad to help me prepare.

I can choose to stay inside or to go outside. If I am inside, I can watch from the window or I might be able to watch the eclipse on the computer.

There are lots of fun things I can do before and during the eclipse!

I can build a special camera that will help me look at the eclipse.



I can help scientists learn more about eclipses!
When the eclipse is happening, I can use my senses to describe it.

What do I *see*? Do I see any clouds or shadows?
Do I see any stars in the sky? Do I see any birds or other animals outside?

What do I *feel*? Do I feel the wind blowing? Do I feel the air getting colder?

What do I *hear*? Do I hear sounds I don't normally hear outside? Is it quieter outside?