



Contact Mary Ladd
Public Information Coordinator
Cell 580-352-4188
Email laddm@pcps.us
Website www.pcps.us

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UPCOMING ECLIPSE GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR PONCA CITY SCHOOL STUDENTS

The upcoming eclipse of the sun will be a great learning experience for Ponca City Public School students. On Monday, August 21, 2017, all North America will be treated to an eclipse of the sun. Anyone within the path of totality can see one of nature's most awe-inspiring sights - a total solar eclipse. This path, where the moon will completely cover the sun and the sun's tenuous atmosphere - the corona, will stretch from Salem, Oregon to Charleston, South Carolina. Observers outside this path will still see a partial solar eclipse where the moon covers part of the sun's disk.

WHAT IS A SOLAR ECLIPSE? A solar eclipse happens when the moon casts a shadow on Earth, fully or partially blocking the sun's light in some areas. This will be the first total solar eclipse visible in the continental United States in 38 years. The next eclipse will not be until April 8, 2024.

Everyone in the United States can see at least a partial solar eclipse, while the thin path of totality (total eclipse) will pass through portions of 14 states. The lunar shadow enters the United States near Lincoln City, Oregon, at 9:05 a.m. PDT. Totality begins in Lincoln City, Oregon, at 10:16 a.m. PDT. The total eclipse will end in Charleston, South Carolina, at 2:48 p.m. EDT. The lunar shadow leaves the United States at 4:09 p.m. EDT. The total eclipse, when the sun is completely blocked by the moon, will last up to 2 minutes and 40 seconds, depending on your location.

NEVER look directly at the sun without appropriate eyewear because it can seriously injure eyes. Regular sunglasses are not safe to view the eclipse. Observers can see the sun and the eclipse with special eclipse glasses. NASA has provided more information about this at <http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety>.

Learn when and where you can see it, viewing techniques and safety tips, and lots more at NASA's Eclipse Website Resources at <http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/eclipse-101>. Find out which spacecraft, balloons and ground-based teams will observe the August 21, 2017 total solar eclipse at <http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/events>. Visit the NASA Science website to find celebrations, information and activities for researchers, citizen scientists, educators, teens and kids.