

World of Wonder

Educational Standards and Suggested Activities

Release week June 27, 2010: Solar Eclipses

Standards

- *Current Events:* Students will compare the sunrise and sunset times listed in the newspaper to their observations.
- *Science:* Students will animate an eclipse.
- *Language Arts:* Students will write a legend about eclipses.

Activities

1. *Use the News:* Your local newspaper usually contains sunrise and sunset times. How do they change from day to day? By how much? In which direction -- earlier or later? Read this information for a few days or a week, and make predictions about what will happen after June 21.
2. Use this simple online animation creator to make a cartoon eclipse. Just go to this website:
www.aniboom.com/ShapeshifterAnimachine.aspx. Draw two circles -- one black and one yellow. Place the black one on the left and the yellow on the right. Move the black circle little by little to the right, clicking the "add frame" each time. Move it right across the yellow one and to the right side of the screen. Finally, make the background black and select "play." (These are just basic instructions. There is much you can do with it!)
3. An ancient Chinese legend about a solar eclipse states that a dragon swallowed the sun. Now it's your turn to write an imaginative legend about the "disappearance" of the sun. What characters are involved? Why did it happen?

World of Wonder meets many state educational standards. This guide helps teachers identify standards and related activities generally intended for Grade 6, but teachers can modify activities to the appropriate grade level.