

Dear BCS Parents,

We are writing to inform you of an exciting and educational opportunity that our students will have on April 8, 2024. On this day, a rare solar eclipse will occur, providing a unique learning experience for our students.

In order to fully take advantage of this celestial event, we have decided to release students early from school at 1:30 p.m. on April 8th. This early release will allow students to safely observe and learn about the solar eclipse with their families.

Please note the following important details:

- <u>Early Release</u>: School will end at 1:30 p.m. on April 8th. Buses will be available for transportation home, and arrangements should be made for students who typically participate in after-school programs.
- <u>Safety Precautions</u>: While observing the solar eclipse, it is crucial for everyone to use proper eye protection to prevent any damage to their eyes. The District will be providing each student with one pair of ISO certified eclipse glasses on April 8 prior to dismissal. We encourage you to review safety guidelines with your children before the event.
- <u>Educational Opportunities</u>: Included in this communication (below) is a list of resources for different eclipse activities you can do with your kids at home. We encourage you to engage with your children in discussions about the science behind this phenomenon and its significance.
- <u>Parental Supervision</u>: We urge parents to supervise their children during the solar eclipse and ensure that they are using approved eye protection. This will help guarantee a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

We believe that witnessing a solar eclipse firsthand can inspire curiosity and wonder in our students, fostering a deeper appreciation for science. We hope that you will join us in making this a memorable and enriching experience for our school community.

Thank you for your understanding and support. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely, Scott Riley, Superintendent

ECLIPSE ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR KIDS AT HOME

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE



Credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

NASA's Eclipse Map

https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/5123/

Eclipse Chalk Art:

Making designs with the sun's corona shadows. This link has downloadable instructions and information:

https://science.nasa.gov/resource/eclipse-chalk-art/?category=eclipse_activities

How does the tiny moon hide the giant sun

Description and demonstration of how a small object can block out a large one. With downloadable activity sheet:

https://science.nasa.gov/resource/how-can-the-little-moon-hide-the-giant-sun/?category=eclipse_activities

Other activities from Arizona State University

Several other activities with downloadable activity sheets https://scope.asu.edu/eclipse-activities/

Make Sun Prints with Construction Paper

Use the UV light from the sun to create art with leaves and construction paper <u>https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/diy-art-make-construction-paper-sun-prints.html</u>

Pop a Balloon with Solar Rays

https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/easy-solar-heat-beam-a ctivity-no-spaceship-required.html

Free Eclipse App with lots of information https://www.bigkidscience.com/eclipse/

3-Hole Punch Cards

Make a punch card to see how the sun's image changes during the eclipse <u>https://punch.space.swri.edu/punch_outreach_pinholeprojector.php</u>



THESE ARE THE STAGES OF A TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE. THE PARTIAL PHASES LAST ABOUT AN HOUR AND 20 MINUTES.