

Demo Guide: Solar and Lunar Eclipse





Materials:

- Globe or sphere to represent the earth
- Clay, playdough or small ball to represent the moon
- String to hold up the moon
- Lamp, flashlight, or some kind of light that can be aimed at the earth

Instructions:

- Attach the string to the moon. Make sure it is long enough to move around the earth.
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- Direct the light from the lamp toward the earth. Hold the moon string and have the moon rotate around earth.



3) Show a lunar
eclipse by holding
the moon on the
other side of
earth, opposite of
the sun. The
earth's shadow
should cover the
moon.



4) Show a solar eclipse by holding the moon over the earth, in front of the sun. The moon's shadow should be visible on earth.



What is a lunar eclipse?

- A lunar eclipse is when the moon completely disappears in earth's shadow.
- Lunar eclipses
 happen
 somewhere on
 earth about twice
 per year.

What is a solar eclipse?

- A solar eclipse is where the moon's shadow passes over the sun. In the path of totality of a solar eclipse the sun completely disappears in the moon's shadow.
- Solar eclipses are the one way we can see the corona of the sun without specialized instruments. Solar eclipses provide scientists with a great time to study the sun.
- Solar eclipses happen somewhere on earth about every 18 months.