

By

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Eclipse Vocabulary Extension

The English language is a living language. Words enter the language as new events occur, and words die when they cease to be useful for daily communication. With the total eclipse of the sun over a portion of the United States, the Path of Totality stretches from coast to coast. My goals for this article is to encourage parents to use this celestial event to advance their children’s interest in science learning and help them to focus on vocabulary development.

In the Hancock County area, we will be able to view at least a partial eclipse, lasting two to four hours. Therefore, **the school district will observe an early release on Monday, August 21, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. Car riders may be picked up from all schools at 11:30 a.m.**

Now is a great time for all students, K-12, to increase their vocabulary. This eclipse experience could help students to advance reading, listening, and writing skills. NASA provides a number of vocabulary words used to describe various aspects of the solar eclipses. Parents should encourage their children to make good use of their iPads, cell phones, and other electronic devices to learn the new vocabulary terms that describe this unusual natural occurrence.

Remember, NASA continues to offer one key message: *“Take time to experience the eclipse on August 21, but experience it safely. Be sure to use to protect your eyes with eclipse viewing glasses during the before and after’ partial eclipse phases, but remove your eclipse glasses when the sky goes dark during totality.”*

Eclipse Terms			
Annular eclipse	Annularity	Antumbra	Baily’s Beads
Chromosphere	Corona	Diamond ring	Duration

Eclipse magnitude	Obscuration	Contact	Hybrid eclipse
New Moon	Partial eclipse	Penumbra	Photosphere
Prominence	Saros	Shadow bands	Sunspots
Sunspot cycle	Total eclipse	Totality	Umbra
Umbraphile			