

## CHAPTER OVERVIEW

### 12: Safely Observing the Sun

#### Caution

NEVER look directly at the Sun! Not with sunglasses, not through a camera, definitely not with a telescope or a binocular, not even through a welder's mask. **NEVER LOOK AT THE SUN DIRECTLY!**

These warnings sometimes make people (especially teachers!) shy away from solar observation activities – please don't let this be you! Observing the Sun is fun and wondrous and can show students many interesting things, especially if you have the opportunity to observe a full or partial solar eclipse! Don't let this terrific opportunity pass you by!

More than 40,000 students observed the Great American Eclipse in 2017 using the activities and curriculum from this book – and more importantly, ***everyone observed the Sun safely!*** You and your students can observe the Sun in perfect safety, too!

How can we observe the Sun safely? The trick is to ***project an image*** of the Sun onto paper, and look at that image instead of looking directly at the Sun itself. There are three easy ways to do this, we will look at the low-cost version first, then the high-tech version, then the no-cost version!

[12.1: The Pinhole Camera](#)

[12.2: The Binocular Projector](#)

[12.3: The Tree Projector](#)

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