

Vocabulary: 3D Eclipse



Vocabulary

- **Eclipse** – an event in which a planet or moon passes through the shadow of another planet or moon.
- **Lunar eclipse** – an eclipse in which the Moon passes through part of the Earth’s shadow.
 - A lunar eclipse in which the Moon lies completely in the Earth’s *umbra* is called a *total lunar eclipse*. The Moon has a dark reddish color at this time.
 - In a *partial lunar eclipse*, the Moon lies partially in the *umbra* and partially in the *penumbra*.
 - A lunar eclipse in which the Moon lies completely in the Earth’s *penumbra* is called a *penumbral eclipse*. In this case, the Moon becomes only slightly darker than usual. The difference in color is so small that it can be difficult to notice.
- **Path of totality**: The course of the Moon’s *umbra* over Earth’s surface during a *solar eclipse*.
 - A person standing in the path of totality will observe a total solar eclipse when the Moon’s *umbra* reaches that point.
- **Penumbra** – the partial shadow beyond the region of the *umbra*.
 - A person in the *penumbra* would see some of the light source (such as the Sun), but not all of it.
- **Solar eclipse** – an eclipse in which the Moon’s shadow passes over part of the Earth.
 - A solar eclipse in which the Moon completely blocks the Sun’s light is called a *total solar eclipse*. This can usually be seen only from a very small area of Earth at any one time.
 - A solar eclipse in which a viewer on Earth sees only some of the Sun being blocked by the Moon is a *partial solar eclipse*.
- **Umbra** – the darkest part of a shadow; in the area totally blocked from the light source.
 - A person in the *umbra* would not see the light source (such as the Sun) at all.