



# eclipse 26

Guide to August 2026  
Solar Eclipse in Ireland



# What is in this Eclipse Guide?



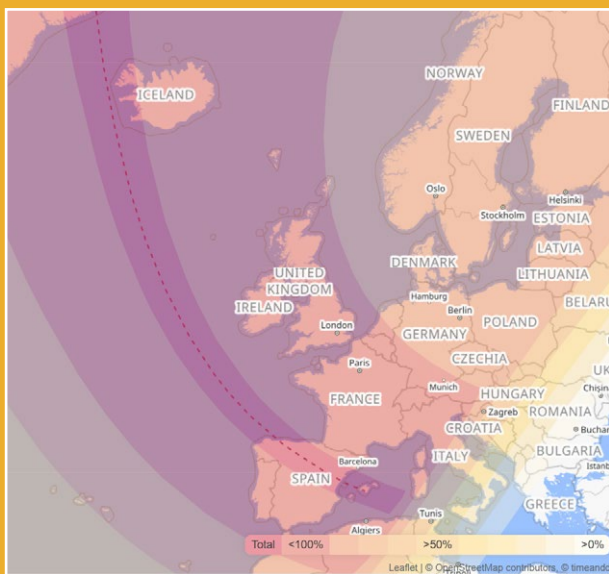
*The Sun's corona made visible by total solar eclipse seen from Mexico in 2024.*

*Credit: Petr Horálek (Institute of Physics in Opava), Josef Kujal (Astronomy Society in Hradec Králové), Milan Hlaváč*

## On the evening of 12<sup>th</sup> August 2026 between 6pm and 8pm, a total solar eclipse will be visible from certain places on Earth.

Although we will not be able to view totality from Ireland, it will be a **near-total solar eclipse** of 94% as seen from Dublin and the highest amount will be up to 97% seen from the very southwest of the country, from Dunmanway in Cork to Dingle in Kerry. This means that 97% of the Sun's disc will be covered by the Moon. We will not get to view another solar eclipse like this in Ireland until 2090, so let's get out there and see it!

This Guide was created by **ESERO Ireland** in collaboration with the Solar Physics Research Group at **DIAS Dunsink Observatory** to give everyone in Ireland details about the eclipse, information on some of the research projects about the Sun which Ireland is involved in, insight into people working in this area, and some tips on how to get the most out of this and any other eclipses.



**Illustration of the path of the Solar Eclipse on 12th August 2026.**

*Credit: timeanddate.com*

**Hi, I'm Paxi!**

In the pages of this Guide, you will see me popping up around information or things to do that are perfect for my younger friends. I can't wait to learn more about eclipses and explore space with you!



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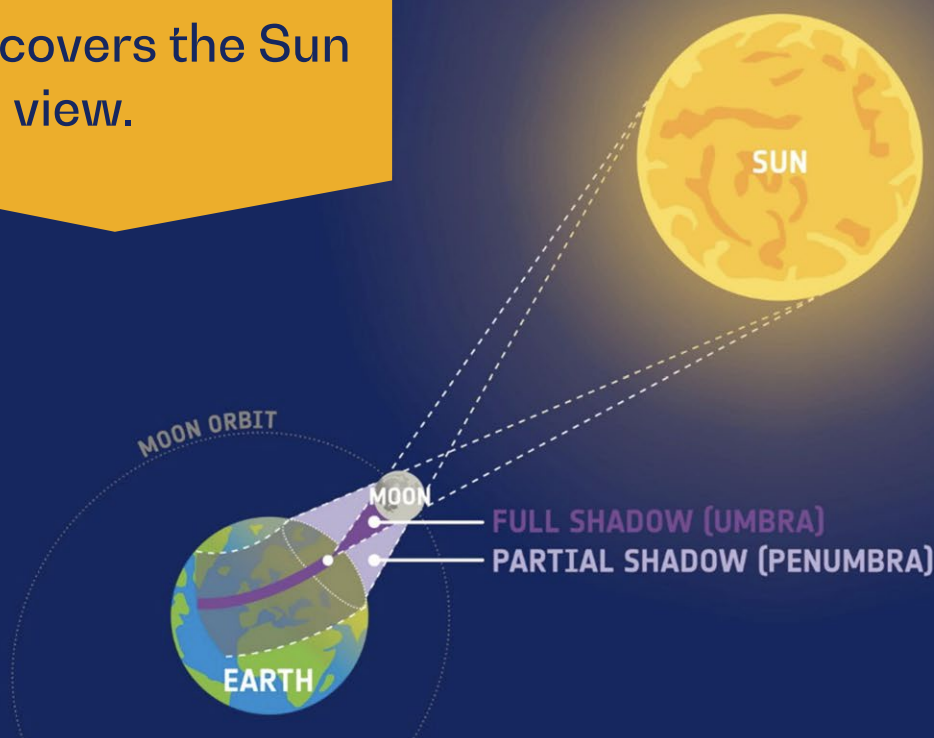
# What is an Eclipse & how does it happen?

Eclipses occur when the Sun, Moon, and Earth line up. There are two main types: a **solar eclipse** and a **lunar eclipse**.

A **lunar eclipse** happens when the Earth passes between the Sun and the Moon, blocking most of the sunlight getting to the Moon.

A **solar eclipse** happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, casting a shadow on Earth that either fully or partially blocks the Sun's light in some areas. If the Moon lines up perfectly between the Sun and the Earth, we will have a **total solar eclipse** – where the Moon blocks almost all of the Sun, but viewers can still see the solar corona – the atmosphere around the Sun – at the point of totality. Depending on how they align, eclipses provide a unique opportunity to view and study the Sun's atmosphere.

**Totality is the point at which the Moon fully covers the Sun from view.**



*If you are standing in the Moon's full shadow, the solar eclipse is total.*

*If you are standing in the partial shadow, only some of the Sun is masked: the eclipse is partial.*

*Credit: ESA*

For each total solar eclipse, there will be a **path of totality** on the Earth. This path is a line of shadow across the globe, whereby if you are on the line during the eclipse, you will see the total solar eclipse. As you move away from this path of totality, you will begin to see a partial eclipse rather than a total eclipse. The further you move from the path of totality, the lower percentage of eclipse you will see, until you eventually see no eclipse at all.

# Types of solar eclipse



Total eclipse



Annular eclipse



Partial eclipse

## There are three types of solar eclipses;

in a **total** solar eclipse, the Moon completely covers the solar disc;

in an **annular** solar eclipse, the Moon is farther from Earth and is too small to completely cover the Sun;

in a **partial** solar eclipse, the Moon isn't directly between the viewer and the Sun, so it covers only part of the Sun.



*A total solar eclipse is one of those rare moments when millions of people can look up together and feel both wonder and curiosity. It is a shared moment that connects us to the Universe and reminds us that the desire to explore and understand is one of humanity's greatest strengths."*

*Professor Carole Mundell, ESA Director of Science*



During a partial eclipse, the Moon still moves between the Earth and the Sun, but only blocks part of the Sun, so it looks to us like the Moon takes a bite out of the Sun for a period.

## More to Explore!

Did you know there are three solar eclipses coming up across Europe over the next three years?! There will be solar eclipses visible in Europe in 2026, 2027, and 2028, and ESA have a webpage dedicated to information all about them including planned activities. Check out [esa.int/solareclipse](https://esa.int/solareclipse) for more details.

For details on the exact start and end times and when the maximum eclipse occurs in your location, check out the interactive map at [timeanddate.com/eclipse/map/2026-august-12](https://timeanddate.com/eclipse/map/2026-august-12). This website also provides information about all upcoming solar eclipses, so you can plan your next adventure to see one!



Our colleagues at the European Space Agency (ESA) Education have developed a great interactive educational kit on solar eclipses packed with activities for everyone from 6 to 60! Find it here and use it online or download the kit to use whenever you like [cesar.esa.int/index.php?Section=Eclipses](https://cesar.esa.int/index.php?Section=Eclipses)

You can also explore out more about the August 2026 Solar Eclipse, where to view it, and events taking place in Ireland, at [esero.ie/eclipse26](https://esero.ie/eclipse26) and the dedicated website at [eclipse26.ie](https://eclipse26.ie).

# Solar Eclipse Safe Viewing Tips

**Never look directly at the Sun with the naked eye**  
– even during an eclipse or even for a short while as the sunlight contains strong and harmful ultraviolet (UV) light which will damage your eyes.



If you want to look at the Sun to watch the eclipse, you will need special equipment or tools to protect your eyes. Regular sunglasses are not safe for observing a solar eclipse. Solar eclipse glasses can be purchased or obtained at events in partnership with ESERO Ireland. These glasses have a protective film in them which blocks 100% of the harmful invisible UV light from the Sun and 99.9% of the intense visible sunlight to protect your eyes from damage and allow you to safely look at the eclipse.

If you are using a telescope, you shouldn't use it to look at the Sun unless it has a solar filter on it (even then this filter **must** be on the end where the light comes in, not just where you look in). Similar to eclipse glasses, these filters block harmful rays from the Sun and allow us to safely view the Sun up-close through a telescope.

There are many other tools you can make at home to safely view the Sun. A simple pinhole projector can be made from a cereal box and will allow you to safely view the eclipse. A household colander or even your hands can also be used to project the eclipse on the ground or a piece of paper. You can read more and find out how to do this and other ways to view the Sun during a solar eclipse on page 16.

# Researcher Spotlight

## Dr Laura Hayes



Dr Laura Hayes is a Royal Society - Research Ireland University Research Fellow at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies (DIAS) whose research is focused on when and how large explosions happen in the atmosphere of the Sun.

*"That might sound dramatic but it's extremely important. Regularly the Sun releases a huge amount of magnetic energy, and this accelerates particles to extreme speeds and emits radiation across the entire electromagnetic spectrum."*

This release of energy and expulsion of energetic particles is called a **solar flare** and **coronal mass ejection** respectively. They can impact things here on Earth such as our telecommunication systems, our satellites, and even power grids.

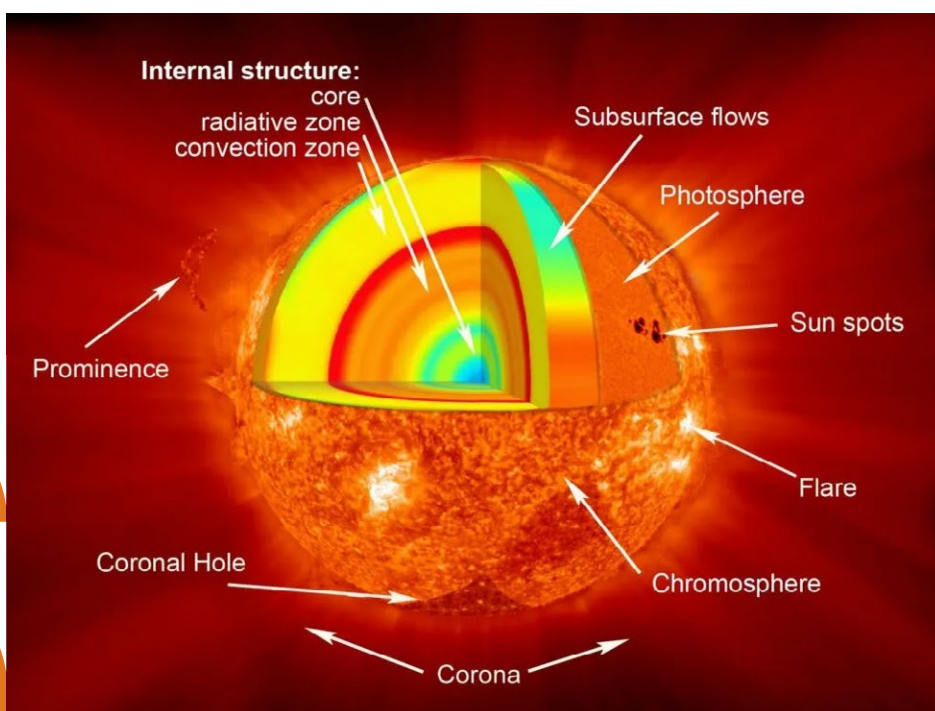
Dr Laura Hayes works with the European Space Agency's (ESA) **Solar Orbiter** mission to understand how and why the magnetic energy on the Sun accelerates particles in solar flares, and to better forecast when it will take place and how it will affect us and our infrastructure on Earth and satellites we send into space.

*"The Sun offers us a natural laboratory in the sky where we can observe extreme astrophysical and plasma conditions which we have no other opportunity to do so."*

This is key for driving understanding of other astrophysical plasmas that we see throughout the solar system, but also on Earth for fusion plasma reactors for energy – we can look at the Sun and understand and mimic the physics that is happening.

Laura and her team are doing cutting-edge research and placing Ireland at the centre of solar physics research, looking at what is driving this field forward and where Ireland's place is in that,

*"Think bigger picture, bigger questions and making new scientific discoveries."*



**Anatomy of the Sun showing the layers of the Sun and different types of solar activity.**

*Credit: SOHO (ESA & NASA)*

# Solar Orbiter

ESA's Solar Orbiter was launched in 2020 and is taking the closest-ever images of the Sun (42 million kilometres from its surface), and the first ever close-up images of its polar regions. With Solar Orbiter's ten instruments, scientists hope to answer some profound questions:



- What drives the Sun's 11-year cycle of rising and subsiding magnetic activity?
- What heats up the upper layer of its atmosphere, the corona, to millions of degrees Celsius?
- How does solar wind form, and what accelerates it to speeds of hundreds of kilometres per second?
- And how does it all affect our planet?

Find out more about Solar Orbiter at [esa.int/SolarOrbiter](https://esa.int/SolarOrbiter)

## Astrophysics Careers

We spoke with some staff and researchers working in solar physics and related areas to find out all about what they do and what a job in astrophysics is like.

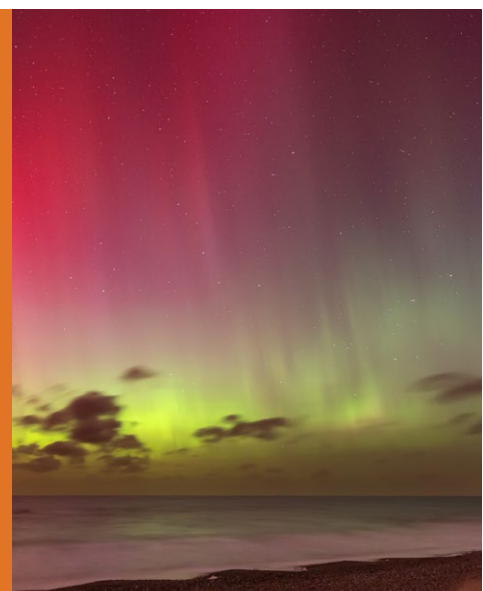
### Simon Walker

Hi, I'm Simon. I work at DIAS Dunsink Observatory. I am in charge of the Space Weather Network of Ireland and finding out when the Northern Lights are around.



**Space Weather** is the influence of solar activity on environmental conditions in space, and the impact that has on the Earth. The **Space Weather Network of Ireland** is a network of geomagnetic observatories around Ireland measuring the strength of and disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field to improve our understanding of geomagnetic storms. Check out [magie.ie](https://magie.ie) to learn all about it!

*Credit: Shutterstock*



## What subjects did you enjoy in school?

I was quite nerdy. I liked maths because in my head it made sense to solve problems, and I was already into space from about six years old, so physics was natural. Music was good fun. I still write some music and still play.

## What inspired you to become a researcher?

I went to the Arctic and got to play with a radar dish, and I thought, "This is cool, maybe I should start doing research."

I did a degree in Space Physics at Aberystwyth in Wales. I wasn't doing well in school before I went to do my degree, but when I started doing really well my tutor said, "You should switch to doing a master's degree because you get to go to the Arctic," so I did. In the Arctic our job was to move a radar dish around. My favourite part was digging the snow. Low-level, low-tech; it was really good fun, just digging snow, like playing in the sand.

## What is your job like, and do you still spend time digging?

My job is to take care of the magnetic network of Ireland, measuring the magnetic field around the island. We use instruments called magnetometers to measure magnets and we need to bury them to keep the temperature stable and keep them away from everything electronic, because electricity creates a magnetic field and messes with our measurements. I dig a hole, bury it, and hope that it stays dry and keeps working. So, lots of computers and lots of digging, not so much snow.

## What are you measuring for, and what does that have to do with the Sun?

The Northern Lights generate an electric current, and anything electronic creates a magnet, and we can measure that magnetic field. When the Sun hits our atmosphere, it creates small currents that follow it as the Earth rotates, and we can see those as well using our measurements.

**One of the most famous Space Weather phenomena, the Northern Lights, or Aurora Borealis, seen from Meath in May 2024. Charged particles from space, known as electrons and ions, crash into particles like oxygen and nitrogen in the Earth's atmosphere, giving them extra energy. These then shine out their energy as light, which we can see from the ground. The aurorae can change rapidly and are often green, sometimes red, and rarely blue or pink; we can also see them as infrared or ultraviolet light with scientific instruments.**

*Credit: Sadhbh Leahy*



## TOP TIP

### What advice would you give someone interested in space or solar physics?

If anyone tells you, "You can't do it" or "Don't try," if you really want to do it, just do it. I was told a lot of times that I should not even do a degree in physics, so just keep going.

Go out and explore places, see what you like and see where you want to go.

### What would you say to your 16-year-old self?

Be careful who you listen to about what's possible. There are many paths and you can get anywhere as long as you have the drive.

### Finally, what would you say to your 10-year-old self?

It's going to be really cool; you're going to get to see polar bears. Don't change the path.

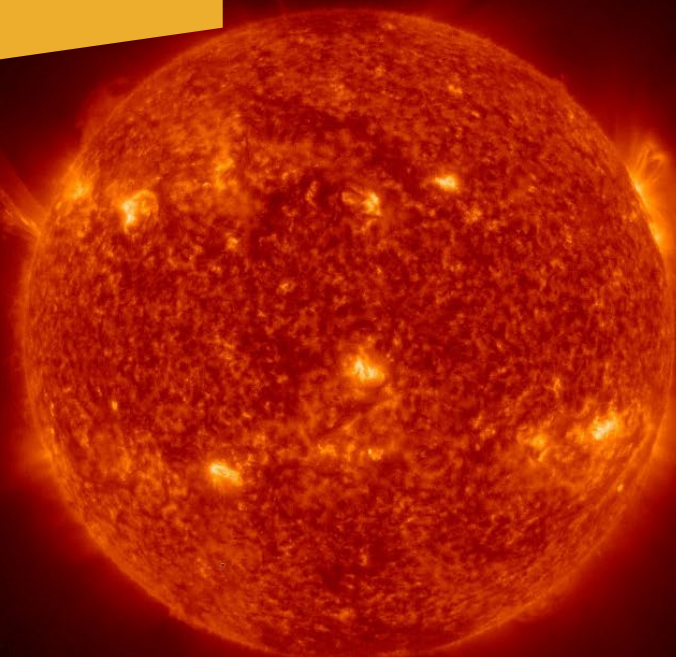


## Herman le Roux

Hi, I'm Herman. I am a solar physicist in the DIAS Solar Physics Group. I work on machine learning models classifying solar eruptions, and as a chief observer for the I-LOFAR radio telescope.

*A giant solar eruption captured by the Extreme Ultraviolet Imager on board Solar Orbiter in 2022.*

*Credit: Solar Orbiter/EUI Team/ESA & NASA*



# What is I-LOFAR?

The Irish Low Frequency Array (I-LOFAR) is the Irish station in a European-wide network of state-of-the-art radio telescopes, used to observe the Universe at low frequencies (10-240 MHz). Built in Birr, Co Offaly in the Irish Midlands, it connects Ireland to the International LOFAR Telescope allowing Irish researchers and students to be involved in some of the most ground-breaking and advanced research projects in modern astronomy.

**The International LOFAR Telescope.**

Credit: ASTRON



## What subjects did you enjoy in school?

Natural sciences and history. Understanding the history of something makes it easier to understand how it works. It is a source of great motivation to know of the work that people have completed in the past, and to be part of it. It's a lot of fun.

## What inspired you to become a researcher?

When I studied Computer Science and Information Technology (IT) at university, I found that there are a lot of very cool research fields that I hadn't known about before. Computer Science is a very interchangeable skill set, and I had always been very interested in astronomy and the stars. I didn't have a physics background, but I had the opportunity to work in astronomy and astrophysics, which was super exciting to me, and I really wanted to continue working on it.

## What is a typical day like for you in your job?

My day-to-day sometimes is admin. Sometimes it's science. Sometimes it's fixing things that have broken, and sometimes it's trying to break things that should be working but are not working up to standard.

I check on I-LOFAR and make sure that everything is working. Then I check websites monitoring solar activity to see if there is anything interesting happening. Then I work on code for machine learning models for my research and analyse the results.

**Solar Monitor** is an Irish-ran website with up-to-date information on the Sun's active regions and solar activity. Take a look at [SolarMonitor.org](http://SolarMonitor.org).



## TOP TIP

### What advice would you give someone interested in space or solar physics?

Read. Read a lot. I wouldn't even necessarily say read science. Just read, be comfortable with reading, be happy reading, because there's a lot of good things to read out there. I think that's the best thing that you can do.

When I was younger, it seemed certain things were so far out of reach that you don't necessarily know how you would ever get there. But something that I found super cool is how prevalent open science is. Whatever you're looking for, there are a lot of resources.

It is really awesome that the opportunity is there for anybody to work on anything in research: find something that makes it exciting for you, because that will give you the motivation to continue working on it even when things are hard, because things will sometimes be hard.

### What would you say to your 16-year-old self?

There's nothing you can't do if you want to do it.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity, with some hard work, to achieve the things that I wanted to, regardless of my high school grades. I think some of my high school teachers would be really surprised by my career trajectory. I would say, "Don't stress too much and just work on things that you enjoy."

### Finally, what would you say to your 10-year-old self?

To my 10-year-old self, I would say that there's nothing you can't do if you want to do it.



### Space Aurora.

Credit: ESA

## Dr Sophie Murray

I am a Technical Officer supporting astrophysics research activities at DIAS Dunsink Observatory. I have a research background in solar physics and space weather forecasting! Space weather is all about how the Sun impacts the Earth.

Eruptions of radiation and hot gas from the Sun can disrupt technologies like radio communications, GPS, and power grids, so we try to forecast when these events might occur (just like weather forecasting but for space!).



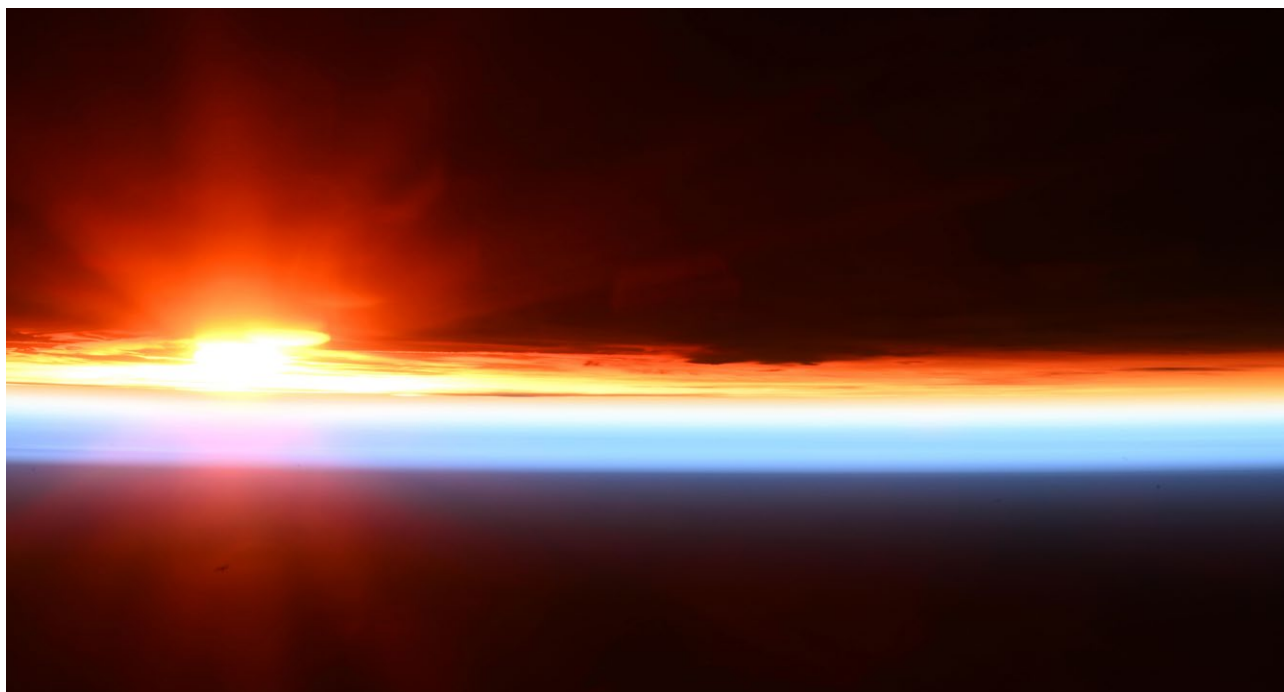
### What subjects did you enjoy in school and study in university?

Maths was definitely always my favourite subject in school, and the one I found the easiest. When I got to secondary school I liked Physics too but there really wasn't much related to "space" on the curriculum at the time - I think if there was I would have enjoyed it more!

I studied Astrophysics for my Bachelors degree, then went on to do a Masters in Space Science and PhD in Solar Physics.

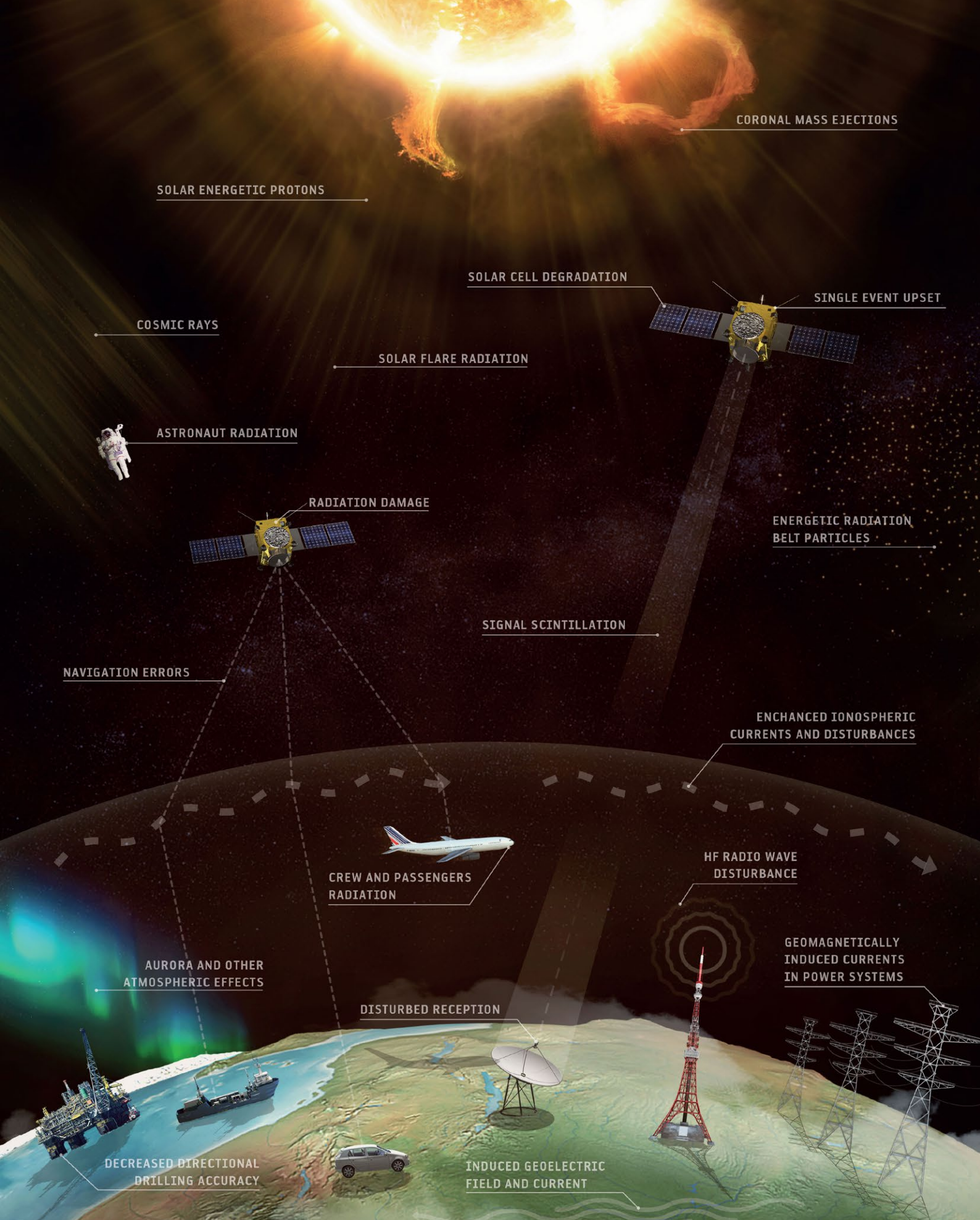
### What inspired you to become a Technical Officer?

I learned about science in quite a traditional way at school, with images of laboratory experiments in my mind, and didn't have much exposure to engineering or technology. Maths was my favourite subject in school but I was always interested in something space related as a career. I didn't entirely know what an astrophysicist did before I started university, but I was interested enough to learn more! I trained to be a researcher and worked in this area after my PhD. I found myself drawn to the more operational and project management aspects of the job. When a technical role based at the iconic Dunsink Observatory came up I jumped at the chance!



*A sunrise seen from the International Space Station (ISS) and photographed by another Sophie, ESA Astronaut Sophie Adenot in May 2026. Seeing 16 sunrises from the ISS each day, Sophie said "No two sunrises are ever the same, depending on the clouds, their shapes, and whether we're flying over ocean or land... I can't help but think of the way Monet or Van Gogh studied light... how much they would have loved this view!"*

*Credit: ESA/NASA - S.Adenot*



**Space weather affects us on Earth in areas including space-based satellite telecommunications, broadcasting, weather services and navigation, power distribution and terrestrial communications.**

Credit: ESA/Science Office

## What is a typical day like for you in your job?

It varies so much from day-to-day – sometimes I might be using my space weather background to help run some of our operational projects like the Magnetic Network of Ireland (MagIE.ie) so lots of technical work on the computer.

Other days I'll use my maths skills to stare at budget spreadsheets for one of our research grants. We do a lot of public outreach at Dunsink as well so a couple of times a month I will volunteer to help run some of our Visitor Nights or other special events. There's always a lot of meetings too with all the different space scientists who work in the DIAS Astrophysics Section.

### TOP TIP

#### What advice you would give to students/someone considering a similar career?

I think it's really important to find something you enjoy - for my career liking maths and physics in school was a good start. But there are so many careers in the space industry nowadays that it's not all about physics - you can work in engineering, communication, and there are even space lawyers! Computational skills also proved to be a lot more important than I ever thought possible as I spend so much of my time at a computer. The main thing is that you enjoy what you are working on.

To be a researcher you'll start with a Bachelors degree then become more specialised in your field with Masters and Doctoral (PhD) degrees, so it's worth knowing that's probably a good 8 years of education ahead. If you're interested in learning a little bit more about what this kind of career is like, I'd say check out if your nearest university hosts any events for the public or schools.

## Finally, what would you say to your 10-year-old self?

I really enjoy the role I'm in right now and the career path that led up to it, so I guess keep on doing what you're doing!



# Activities

Here you will find a range of activities and ways to make the most of your eclipse viewing experience. From simple techniques requiring no equipment other than what you have *on hand*, to a simple solar viewer you can build yourself, up to a more advanced solar viewer. There's something for everyone!

All these solar viewers can be made ahead of time and tested with a normal view of the Sun so no need to wait for the eclipse to make sure it works! You will see the full circular disk of the Sun through your pinhole projector or viewer of choice and that is how you will know it is working.

## Eclipse Viewing using Nature & Household Objects

### 1. Nature as a Pinhole Projector (Leaves)

#### What to Do:

1. Find a leaf with small holes or natural gaps.
2. Stand with your back to the Sun.
3. Hold the leaf above a light-coloured surface (e.g. paper or concrete).
4. Observe the projected image of the Sun on the surface below.

#### What You'll See:

- Small crescent-shaped images of the Sun
- The shape changes as the eclipse progresses

Leaves act like natural pinhole projectors, creating multiple images of the Sun.

### 2. Make Mini Eclipses with Your Hands

#### What to Do:

1. Stand with your back to the Sun
2. Stretch out your hands and overlap your fingers to form a grid.
3. Let sunlight pass through the gaps.
4. Look at the shadow cast on the ground.

#### Observe:

- Dozens of tiny Sun images projected through the finger gaps
- Clear evidence that light travels in straight lines

**This is particularly effective with children, as small hands create many projections.**



### 3. Follow Tree Shadows

#### What to Do:

- Stand under a large leafy tree (e.g. oak or maple).
- Watch the ground during the eclipse.

#### What Happens:

- Instead of leaf-shaped shadows, the ground fills with hundreds of crescent Suns
- Shadows become sharper and appear to shift as the eclipse progresses

This effect occurs because sunlight passes through tiny gaps between moving leaves.

### 4. Everyday Objects as Eclipse Tools

You can also use:

- Colanders
- Strainers
- Slotted spoons
- Crackers with holes

Each hole projects an image of the Sun onto the ground or paper, producing multiple mini eclipses at once.



**Try not to eat your solar viewer until you're finished!**

# Make a Pinhole Sun Viewer with a Sheet of Paper

## Overview

In this activity, you build a simple pinhole Sun viewer using everyday materials to observe the Sun indirectly. This activity is ideal for exploring light, shadows, and celestial motion, and is especially relevant during solar eclipse events.

## Materials (per group)

- 2 stiff pieces of cardboard or paper plates
- Tin foil
- Pin or paperclip
- Tape
- Scissors
- White paper (screen)

## Step 1: Build the Viewer

1. Cut a square hole (approx. 2 cm × 2 cm) in the centre of one piece of cardboard.
2. Tape tin foil over the hole.
3. Carefully make one small pinhole in the foil.
4. Place white paper on the second piece of cardboard to act as a screen.

## Step 2: Observe the Sun

- Stand with your back to the Sun
- Allow sunlight to pass through the pinhole
- Observe the image of the Sun projected onto the white screen

## What's Happening Scientifically?

- Light travels in straight lines
- The small pinhole restricts the amount of light entering
- An inverted image of the Sun is projected onto the screen
- During a solar eclipse, the image shows the Moon moving across the Sun



**This is also great for my younger friends to build so we can see the eclipse!**

# Make a Cereal Box Viewer to Observe a Solar Eclipse

## Overview

In this activity, you build a safe, low-cost Sun viewer using a simple pinhole camera made from a cardboard box. This allows indirect observation of the Sun, making it suitable for everyday use and for events such as solar eclipses. This uses the same principle as the pinhole sun viewer on a sheet of paper, but with a little more effort to make a darker space to see the eclipse more clearly.



I love making this with my friends so we can safely see the Sun.

## Materials (per group)

- Cardboard box
- White cardboard
- Tinfoil
- Scissors
- Tape
- Pin or small sharp object

## Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Cut a horizontal window (~3 cm high) at one short end of the box.



**2. Cut a second window directly above it, slightly larger (~5 cm high).**

- a. The upper window is the projection window
- b. The lower window is the viewing window



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**3. Cut a piece of white cardboard to fit inside the box and place it at the opposite end. This acts as the projection screen.**



**4. Cover the projection window completely with tinfoil and tape it securely.**



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**5. Hold the box up to a light (not the Sun) and check that no unwanted light enters. Seal any gaps.**



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**6. Use a pin to carefully make a small hole ( $\approx 3$  mm) in the foil.**



## Observing the Sun Safely

1. Go outside and stand with your back to the Sun.
2. Point the foil-covered end of the box toward the Sun.
3. Allow sunlight to pass through the pinhole onto the white screen.
4. Look through the lower viewing window.



## What You'll See

- A small circular image of the Sun projected onto the screen
- This is not just light, but a true image formed by the pinhole camera

## Scientific Explanation

- The pinhole allows only a narrow beam of light to pass through
- Light travels in straight lines
- A smaller hole produces a sharper image
- The viewer works like a basic camera, projecting an image without focusing lenses

*This activity is modified from the AstroEDU website, with instructional images taken from there. See [astroedu.iau.org](http://astroedu.iau.org)*

# Observing a Solar Eclipse Using a Tube Pinhole Viewer

## Overview

A tube pinhole viewer allows you to observe a solar eclipse safely through projection, without ever looking directly at the Sun. By using a long tube, you can produce a larger and clearer projected image of the partially eclipsed Sun than with shorter box viewers.

This resource is especially suitable for older learners and adults, as it introduces alignment, scale, and careful observation, while remaining lowcost and accessible.

## Why Use a Tube Viewer for an Eclipse?

Compared with box pinhole viewers, tube viewers:

- Produce larger projected images
- Make the Moon's curved "bite" more obvious
- Are well suited to older students and adults who can manage alignment

Longer tubes result in a larger projected Sun image, making eclipse features easier to observe.

## Materials (per viewer)

- Long tube (poster tube, wrappingpaper tube, or 5 taped together kitchen towel tubes). NOTE: A 122 cm (48 inch) tube produces a projected Sun image approximately 1 cm in diameter, large enough to make out eclipse features clearly.
- Cardboard or thick card (for projection screen)
- Tin foil
- Tape
- Pin, needle, or thumbtack

## Construction Steps

1. Cover one end of the tube completely with thick card (this is the projection screen).
2. About 2–3 cm from the covered end, cut a 2 × 2 cm viewing window into the side of the tube.
3. Leave the opposite end open.
4. Cover the open end fully with tin foil and tape securely.
5. Use a pin to make one very small hole in the centre of the foil.

The viewer is now ready to use.

## Observing the Eclipse Safely

### How to Aim the Tube

1. Stand with your back to the Sun.
  2. Rest the tube over your shoulder so the viewing window is near your face.
  3. Watch the shadow of the tube on the ground.
  4. Move the tube until its shadow becomes smallest and most circular, this means it is aligned with the Sun.
  5. Look through the viewing window to see the projected image on the screen.
- Correct alignment causes the Sun, pinhole, and screen to fall in a straight line.

### What You Will Observe During an Eclipse

- The Sun gradually changing from a circle to a crescent
- The Moon's smooth, curved outline
- The symmetry of eclipse progression before and after maximum
- Larger image size compared with short box viewers

A 122 cm (48inch) tube produces a projected Sun image approximately 1 cm in diameter, large enough to make out eclipse features clearly.



**Tube Pinhole Viewer.**

*Credit: Heuston Museum of Natural Science*



## Who are we?

### What is ESERO Ireland & what is DIAS Dunsink Observatory

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*Montage of images showing stages of a total solar eclipse captured on 2 July 2019, from ESO's La Silla Observatory in Chile, South America.*

Credit: ESA/CESAR/Wouter van Reeven

**ESERO Ireland** is an education project of the European Space Agency (ESA) that is co-funded by Research Ireland while also working with national collaborators. Our aim is to spark young people's passion for STEM (science, technology, engineering, maths) through the exciting world of space, build their skills, and empower them to pursue careers in space. We also raise awareness of the vital role space research, exploration, and applications play in shaping modern society, using engaging resources and creative teaching methods, and inspiration from role models.

Find out more at [esero.ie](http://esero.ie), and follow us on social media [@ResearchIreland](https://twitter.com/ResearchIreland).

**DIAS Dunsink Observatory** operates as part of the Astronomy & Astrophysics Section of the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies (DIAS). Dunsink Observatory has been a centre for astronomical research and public engagement in Ireland since its foundation in 1785, and has been home to many of Ireland's most famous scientists, including Sir William Rowan Hamilton.

Today the observatory hosts a range of researchers studying the sun, space weather, planetary science, star formation, exoplanets and more. While we are primarily focused on fundamental research, we do also dedicate time to education and public engagement with a variety of public events throughout the year.

Find out more at [www.dunsink.dias.ie](http://www.dunsink.dias.ie), and follow us on social media [@DIASDunsink](https://twitter.com/DIASDunsink).

