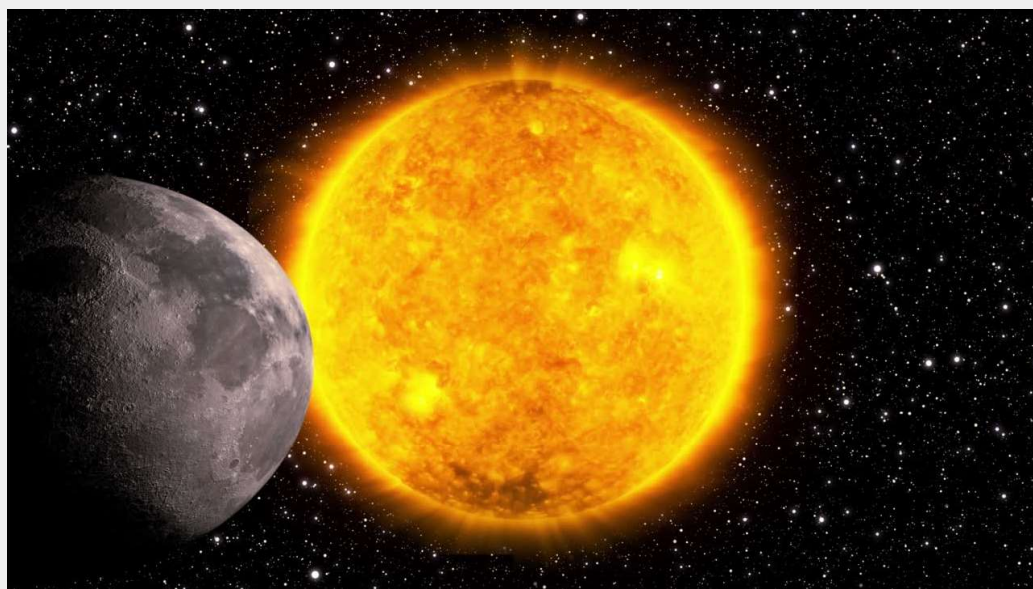


SPOTLIGHT STEM

April 2024

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse traversed North America, crossing Mexico, the United States, and Canada. This rare event occurs when the Moon comes between the Sun and Earth, casting a shadow that entirely covers the Sun's surface. As a result, the sky will darken, resembling either dawn or dusk.

The total eclipse commenced in Mexico around 11:07 a.m. PDT (Pacific Daylight Time) on Monday, then moved into Texas at 1:27 p.m. CDT (Central Daylight Time), finally concluding in Maine at 3:35 p.m. EDT (Eastern Daylight Time). Even individuals outside the path of totality were able to witness a portion of the eclipse. NASA predicts that the next total solar eclipse visible from the contiguous United States will occur on August 23, 2044.

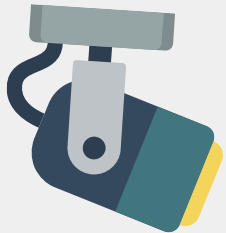


What's In This Month's Issue:

- Solar Eclipse 2024
- FIRST Tech Challenge
 - Gears of Fire get competition ready!
- Earth Day 2024
- Spotlight STEM
- Upcoming Events
 - Earth Day
 - Science and Engineering Showcase
- Career Connections
 - Atmospheric Scientists



Katie Wilfert's class from Westgate Elementary looked adventurous in their eclipse glasses, embracing the spirit of true explorers while safely viewing the eclipse.

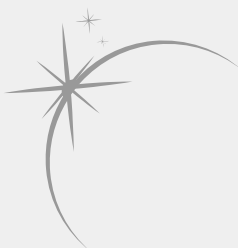


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STEM students at Westgate Elementary in St. Petersburg put their Eclipse projects on display.



Students eagerly explained their creations to visitors, showcasing their knowledge and passion for science.



Students, staff and guests marveled at the dedication and creativity of the young scientists, as they explored the wonders of the universe right in their own school.

The event was a true celebration of STEM education.

