

Solar Filters

Novice

- It's not safe to look at the Sun directly.
- Devices can be used to let you see sunspots and other surface features.
- Using solar filters, we can observe the Sun over time and see how it changes.
- Ancient Chinese astronomers were the first people to discover sunspots, which they did via reflections from muddy puddles.
- Galileo was the first European to discover sunspots, which he did by looking through a telescope - unsafe!

Intermediate

- Solar filters reduce the amount of light coming from the Sun so it can be safely studied.
- Pinhole cameras or eyepiece projection from telescopes can be used to study the Sun safely.
- Using solar filters, we can observe the Sun over time and estimate its rotation rate.

Expert

- Design specifications of pinhole cameras.
- Using solar filters, we can observe the Sun over time and calculate its rotation rate, estimate solar maximum and minimum, and track how sunspot latitude changes.
- Science and engineering complement each other in the cycle known as research and development (R&D).
- Nuclear Fusion processes in the center of the sun release the energy that ultimately reaches Earth as radiation.

Related NGSS

Grade Level	Student Performance Expectations
3-5	4-PS4-2 Develop a model to describe that light reflecting from objects and entering the eye allows objects to be seen.
MS	MS-PS-2 Develop and use a model to describe that waves are reflected, absorbed, or transmitted through various materials.
HS	HS-PS4-1 Use mathematical representations to support a claim regarding relationships among the frequency, wavelength, and speed of

	waves traveling in various media.
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Related CCSSM

Grade Level	Student Performance Expectations
3-5	<p>CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP4 Model with mathematics. Mathematically proficient students can apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. In early grades, this might be as simple as writing an addition equation to describe a situation. In middle grades, a student might apply proportional reasoning to plan a school event or analyze a problem in the community. By high school, a student might use geometry to solve a design problem or use a function to describe how one quantity of interest depends on another. Mathematically proficient students who can apply what they know are comfortable making assumptions and approximations to simplify a complicated situation, realizing that these may need revision later. They are able to identify important quantities in a practical situation and map their relationships using such tools as diagrams, two-way tables, graphs, flowcharts and formulas. They can analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions. They routinely interpret their mathematical results in the context of the situation and reflect on whether the results make sense, possibly improving the model if it has not served its purpose.</p> <p>CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.G.A.1 Draw points, lines, line segments, rays, angles (right, acute, obtuse), and perpendicular and parallel lines. Identify these in two-dimensional figures.</p>
MS	<p>CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively. Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to <i>decontextualize</i>—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to <i>contextualize</i>, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.</p> <p>CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.6.EE.A.2 Write, read, and evaluate expressions in which letters stand for</p>

	<p>numbers.</p> <p>CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.7.EE.B.3 Solve multi-step real-life and mathematical problems posed with positive and negative rational numbers in any form (whole numbers, fractions, and decimals), using tools strategically. Apply properties of operations to calculate with numbers in any form; convert between forms as appropriate; and assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies.</p> <p>CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.7.EE.B.4 Use variables to represent quantities in a real-world or mathematical problem, and construct simple equations and inequalities to solve problems by reasoning about the quantities.</p>
HS	<p>CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively. Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to <i>decontextualize</i>—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to <i>contextualize</i>, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.</p> <p>CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP4 Model with mathematics. Mathematically proficient students can apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. In early grades, this might be as simple as writing an addition equation to describe a situation. In middle grades, a student might apply proportional reasoning to plan a school event or analyze a problem in the community. By high school, a student might use geometry to solve a design problem or use a function to describe how one quantity of interest depends on another. Mathematically proficient students who can apply what they know are comfortable making assumptions and approximations to simplify a complicated situation, realizing that these may need revision later. They are able to identify important quantities in a practical situation and map their relationships using such tools as diagrams, two-way tables, graphs, flowcharts and formulas. They can analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions. They routinely interpret their mathematical results in the context of the situation and reflect on whether the results make sense, possibly improving the model if it has not served its purpose.</p> <p>CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSA.SSE.A.1 Seeing structure in</p>

Expressions

Interpret expressions that represent a quantity in terms of its context.

CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSA.SSE.B.3 Seeing structure in**Expressions**

Choose and produce an equivalent form of an expression to reveal and explain properties of the quantity represented by the expression.

CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSA.CED.A.4 Creating Equations

Rearrange formulas to highlight a quantity of interest, using the same reasoning as in solving equations.