**Student Worksheet: Prepare Your Community for the Eclipse**

**Directions**: Form groups with a maximum of 6 students apiece and individually read and summarize one of the following Science News Media Group articles:

* “[How the 2019 eclipse will differ from 2017’s — and what that means for science](https://www.sciencenews.org/article/2019-total-solar-eclipse-south-america)”
* “[Scientists Say: Eclipse](https://www.snexplores.org/article/scientists-say-eclipse)”
* “[Eclipses come in many forms](https://www.snexplores.org/article/eclipses-come-many-forms)”
* “[Astronomers scrutinized last year’s eclipse. Here’s what they’ve learned](https://www.sciencenews.org/article/astronomers-2017-solar-eclipse-results)”
* “[Getting ready for the solar eclipse](https://www.snexplores.org/article/getting-ready-solar-eclipse)”
* “[How to safely watch a solar eclipse](https://www.snexplores.org/article/how-safely-watch-solar-eclipse)”
* “[When the moon throws shade, the weather can change](https://www.snexplores.org/article/when-moon-throws-shade-weather-can-change)”
* “[What do animals do during a solar eclipse?](https://www.snexplores.org/article/what-do-animals-do-during-solar-eclipse)”
* “[Here’s how citizen scientists can help during the 2024 solar eclipse](https://www.sciencenews.org/article/citizen-scientists-2024-solar-eclipse)”

If you need help creating a summary, use the “[How to write a summary](https://www.sciencenews.org/learning/guide/component/how-to-write-a-summary)” Science News Learning activity.

**Eclipse Topic**

In your group, share your summary and answer the following questions.

1. Within your group, share what your articles were about. What topic(s) stood out to you as a group? Why?

2. As a group, you will be creating a 2- to 3-minute video that addresses one of the following topics:

* Eclipse History
* How Eclipses Occur
* Weather Changes and Animal Behavior During an Eclipse
* Safety When Viewing an Eclipse
* Scientific Research during Eclipses: What can we learn during an eclipse?
* Local to an eclipse? Get involved!

Rank the topics from 1-5, with 1 having the highest preference. Once you have ranked your topics from 1-5, share your answer with your teacher.

3. What did the articles do to help you understand the content? How could you use these techniques to create an informative video about your topic?

**Scripting a Video**

Use the following step-by-step instructions to help guide your group in creating a video script.

1. As a group, write two or three general questions about your topic for the audience of the video. For example, a group with the topic of safety may write, “Why is looking at the eclipse dangerous?” and “How do safety glasses protect your eyes?”

2. Use online resources and the provided articles to learn more about your topic. Create an outline, framing it by using your group’s questions. Then, create a bulleted list that contains subtopics or concepts you need to explain to answer your questions. This outline should provide the information your group would like to include in a short 2- to 3-minute video about your topic.

3. Divvy up the outline among group members. Fill in your outline topics with engaging sentences, definitions, and information you’d like to include in the video. Think about how the articles were engaging, fun, easy-to-understand, and informative and implement similar strategies as you develop a script for your section. Think about any props, images, animations, or slideshows you’d like to include in your video. Write down your script for your section and make sure to cite the sources of the information you used.

4. As a group, review the scripts for each section of the outline. Refine the script sections and decide how the individual parts will fit together and flow from one to the next. Also, discuss how you’ll make your video interactive. How can you engage your community? What is your engagement element or call-to-action? Get creative! Add your idea(s) to your script before finalizing your script as a group.

5. Submit the first draft of your script to your teacher.

**Filming and Video Compilation**

After receiving feedback on your script and making any appropriate changes, make sure your script is fact-checked to ensure that the information you provide is accurate.

Create your 2- to 3-minute video by recording your script according to your teacher’s instructions. Review your video and do as many takes as you need before submitting it to your teacher.