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## **NEWS** RELEASE

10/ 10 / 2023

## City of El Paso Public Libraries **Celebrate Annual Solar Eclipse** Libraries Distribute Free Eclipse Glasses

EL PASO, Texas — The El Paso Public Libraries will offer free eclipse viewing glasses to skywatchers starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, October 14 at all library branches.

On Saturday, October 14, a solar eclipse will cross North, Central and South America. The eclipse will be visible in parts of the United States and begins around 9:15 a.m. in our region, but will reach its peak around 10:40 a.m.

Branch library staff will give away one pair of glasses per family. In addition, some library branches will offer free story time, crafts, and programming associated with the eclipse.

Experts warn that it is unsafe to look directly at the bright sun without using specialized eye protection designed for solar viewing, risking eye injury. People should not look directly at the sun even during the peak eclipse time as doing so may cause permanent damage to a person's eyesight.

There will be another eclipse in April 2024, so the public is encouraged to keep the viewers for later use.

For more information on the free eclipse glasses and to learn more about all the services and programs provided by the El Paso Public Libraries, visit www.ElPasoLibrary.org.

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