How to Make a Pinhole Solar Eclipse Projector

What You’ll Need:

- Two pieces of white cardboard—paper plates are perfect—or two sheets of plain white paper.
- A sharp pin, tack, or needle

Follow these steps and you’ll be ready to go!

1. Take your first paper plate or piece of paper and make a small hole in the middle using your pin or tack. The hole should be smooth and round.
2. Stand with your back to the sun, and hold up the plate or paper with the pinhole so that the sun shines on it.
3. Use your second plate or sheet of paper as a screen! Hold it in front of you at a distance so that the sunlight from the pinhole in the first plate/sheet is visible. What you’ll see is an inverted, projected image of the sun!
4. To make the image larger, just hold the screen plate/paper further away from the one with the pinhole.

Remember:

- NEVER look directly at the sun without special, protective eye gear. Sunglasses are not enough!
- Keep your back to the sun when using your pinhole projector, and don’t look at the sun through the pinhole!