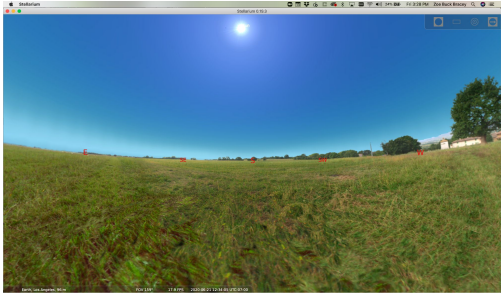




Lesson 2: Teacher Reference

Observing the Sun with Stellarium

Teacher Reference for Observing the Sun video at www.teachersopensciencedfieldtest.org/space

Instructions	Screenshot
<p>1. Make sure you have oriented yourself to Stellarium using the Stellarium Orientation video at www.teachersopensciencedfieldtest.org/space and/or <i>Stellarium Introduction Teacher Reference</i>. Press the hourglass button on the bottom toolbar to adjust the date and time to now. Make sure the right location is set and that time is moving at a normal rate by pressing the single, right-facing arrow.</p>	
<p>2. Speed up time using the double, right-facing arrow. Click the arrow three times and ask students to observe the path of the Sun. As the Sun sets, reset the rate of time by clicking the single, right-facing arrow and ask students to record their observations on <i>Observations of the Sun: Location</i> _____.</p>	
<p>3. Move quickly through the night by using the time arrows or clicking the double, right-facing arrow four times. At sunrise, again reset the rate of time to normal with the single right-facing arrow and ask students to record their observations on <i>Observations of the Sun: Location</i> _____.</p>	

4. Tell students to next sketch the approximate path of the Sun through the sky as it moves from sunrise to sunset. Tell them you are going to speed up time and let them observe the path for a couple of days so they can get it right. Then click four times on the double, right-facing arrow and let a couple of days pass. Students should record only one observation at this point but can use the multiple passes to refine their data. Then slow things down again with the single, right-facing arrow.



5. Tell students that you are going to skip ahead a couple of months so that we can take observations at another time of year. If you have chosen to take five observations at three-month intervals (seasonally), skip ahead 3 months using the date/time dialogue in the bottom right, and repeat the previous three steps. If you have chosen to take seven observations at two month intervals (twice per season), skip ahead two months and repeat the previous three steps.



6. Repeat the previous step (step 5) for the number of observations you would like your class to make.

