Paper Plate Education

"Serving the Universe on a Paper Plate"

Activity: Tracking Sunspots



Important: Do not look directly at the sun. Either use only proper filters on telescopes or project the image.

Project, trace, and track sunspots directly on a plate which defines the outline of the sun.

This activity was demonstrated by Clyde Simpson at 2000 Ohio GLPA State Meeting at Shaker Hts. High School planetarium.



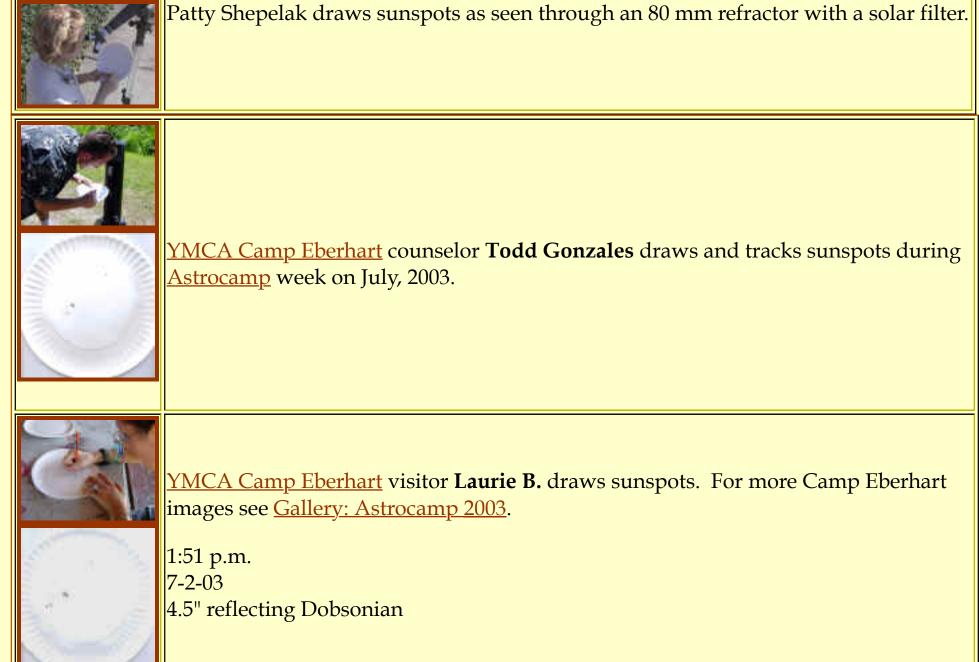
Two detailed plates courtesy of Clyde Simpson.

OR...

View sunspots through a properly filtered telescope (see http://www.transitofvenus.org/safety.htm) and transfer what you see onto a paper plate that represents the solar disk. Compare a series of plates from successive days to track sunspots and to predict the rotational period of the sun.



Erik Fabian draws sunspots during an active period of the sun.



Contributed by Chuck Bueter.

Demonstrated by Clyde Simpson at 2000 Ohio GLPA State Meeting at Shaker Hts. High School planetarium.



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