

The sunspotter

This Science to gather data about the sun on your own! The spotter gives you the

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Predict what you will see when you look through the spotter.

Observe the image in the Sunspotter.

What did you notice?

Describe the sun's image in the spotter. How did it look? How did it change?

Was there any color? How many spots? How many in a group?

Describe the image in the spotter. What is it made of? How long does it take to see a change?

What is the color of the sun's image?

What color does the sun seem to be?

How would you describe the edge of the sun? Is it sharp or fuzzy?

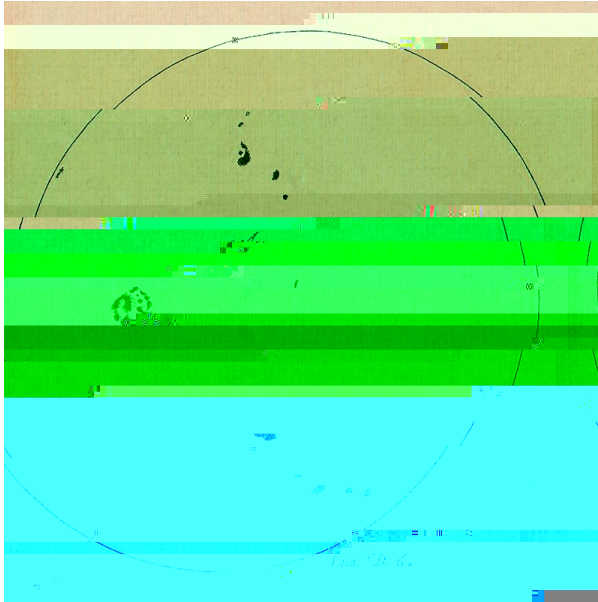
Can you see any bright spots in the sun's image?

Did you see any clouds or birds or airplanes cross the sun's image?

Do you think you would see the same thing in an hour? A day? A month? A year?

Discover Galileo

There were no cameras when sunspots were discovered. All images of the sun had to be hand drawn. Galileo was the first person to record sunspots and their motion and realize this meant the sun was moving, spite of his own crisis. Below are two of his drawings of sunspots, made several days apart.



What do you notice about the two images? These observations are one day apart: July 5th Can you remember the image to see how the sunspots change over time? What are some of your observations?

Try drawing your own fresh sketch of what you see in the camera.

Pre-draw the circle of the sun on your paper.

Sooner than you know it, you'll find yourself far from the circle as it moves too far.

Look at the image and draw any spots you see.

Test to see how the sunspots move over time.

Record the time of day and date you are drawing.

You may have to erase and redraw parts of the sun, but since it doesn't