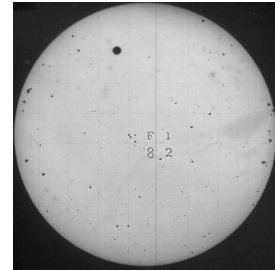


Teacher Guide for the Venus Transit

Background on the Venus Transit

On June 8, 2004, Venus will cross the Sun's disc for about seven hours, an event not seen since 1882. Past Venus Transits have helped scientists measure the solar system, and specifically determine with accuracy the distance between the Earth and the Sun.



www.meta-evolutions.de

To the right is an image from the last Venus Transit.

This archived webcast is a great place to start.

It was hosted by **NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory** and offers thorough and engaging information about the Venus Transit through various speakers, short videos and experiments. Runs about one hour.

http://planetquest1.jpl.nasa.gov/venus_transit.cfm

Academic Lesson Plans available from NNKOL

<http://www.nnkol.org/venustransits>

The Venus Transit: Determining the Scope of our Solar System

Subject: Science

Grade range: 9-12

Technology used: Internet, Word Processing, 2D Animation software (e.g. Macromedia Flash)

The Venus Transit: Calculating the Astronomical Unit

Subject: Mathematics

Grade range: 9-12

Technology used: Internet, Word Processing, Draw software (e.g. Paint, or Photoshop)

The Venus Transit: Historical Research and Timeline of Past Transits

Subject: Social Studies

Grade range: 6-8

Technology used: Internet, Word Processor and PowerPoint

The Venus Transit: Creating Legends

Subject: Language Arts

Grade range: 6-8

Technology used: Internet and Word Processor

Venus Transit Research Links

Edmond Halley's Famous Admonition of 1716

http://www.dsellers.demon.co.uk/venus/ven_ch8.htm

Transit of Venus 2004 – June 8 <http://www.transitofvenus.org/>

Transit of Venus 2004 – June 8

<http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/transit/venus0412.html>

Archived Web Cast http://planetquest1.jpl.nasa.gov/venus_transit.cfm

Chasing Venus Teacher Resource Page

<http://www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions/chasing-venus/teachers/>

PlanetQuest - Venus Transit Lesson Plans for Teacher

http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/sunearthday/2004/vt_edu2004_venus_912.htm

NASA Connect

<http://connect.larc.nasa.gov/programs/2003-2004/venus/index.html>

More VT Teaching Ideas that Integrate Technology

Using **2D animation** software (e.g. Flash) students can create a digital Venus Transit.

Script and record a **digital audio** radio program replicating the last Transit in 1882.

Interview scientists and astronomers about the Transit, create a **digital video** documentary.

Write a science fiction story surrounding the Transit of Venus. Use a **Image / Draw** program, like Photoshop, to illustrate the story.

Create a **digital painting** which reflects student reaction to the event.

Use **3D software** to digitally create the solar system and the Transit.

NNKOL has resources to help learn the technology skills required for all of these ideas. Visit <http://www.kidzonline.org/teachit/main.html>