

Fiction

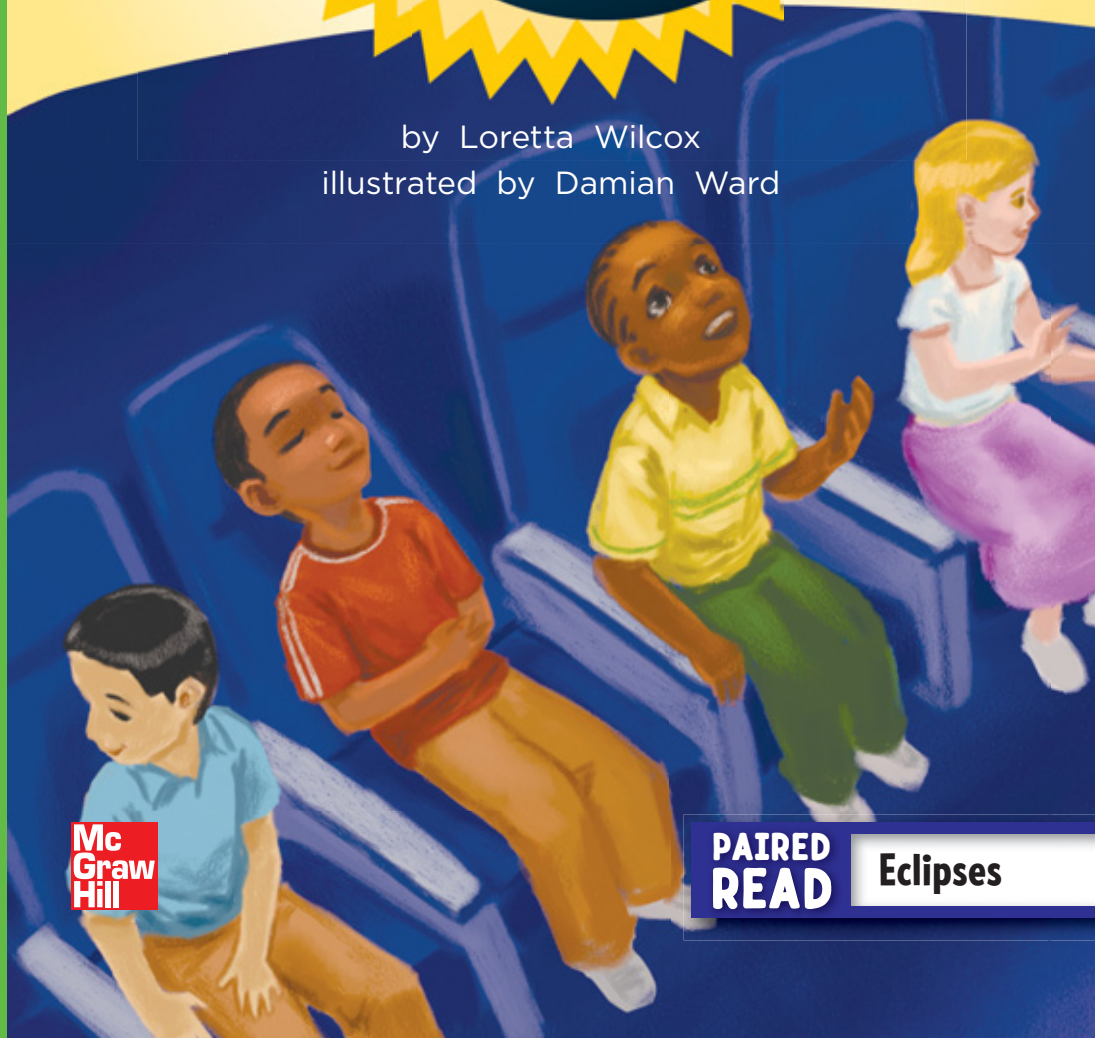
# *Shadows* *in the* **Sky**

by Loretta Wilcox  
illustrated by Damian Ward

**Mc  
Graw  
Hill**

**PAIRED  
READ**

**Eclipses**



## STRATEGIES & SKILLS

### Comprehension

Strategy: Reread

Skill: Sequence

### Phonics

Long *i*: *i*, *y*, *igh*, *ie*

### Vocabulary Strategy

Compound Words

### Vocabulary

adventure, delighted,  
dreamed, enjoy(ed),  
grumbled, moonlight,  
neighbor, nighttime

### Content Standards

#### Science

Earth and Space Science

Word count: 911\*\*

\*\*The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.



## Education

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Send all inquiries to:  
McGraw-Hill Education  
Two Penn Plaza  
New York, New York 10121

ISBN: 978-0-02-118893-2  
MHID: 0-02-118893-9

Printed in the United States.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 DOC 17 16 15 14 13 12

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## Essential Question

What can we see in the sky?



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### Chapter 1

Class Trip . . . . . 2

### Chapter 2

The Sky Show . . . . . 7

### Chapter 3

Back to Earth . . . . . 12

**Respond to Reading** . . . . . 16

### PAIRED READ

**Eclipses** . . . . . 17

**Focus on Literary Elements** . . . . . 20

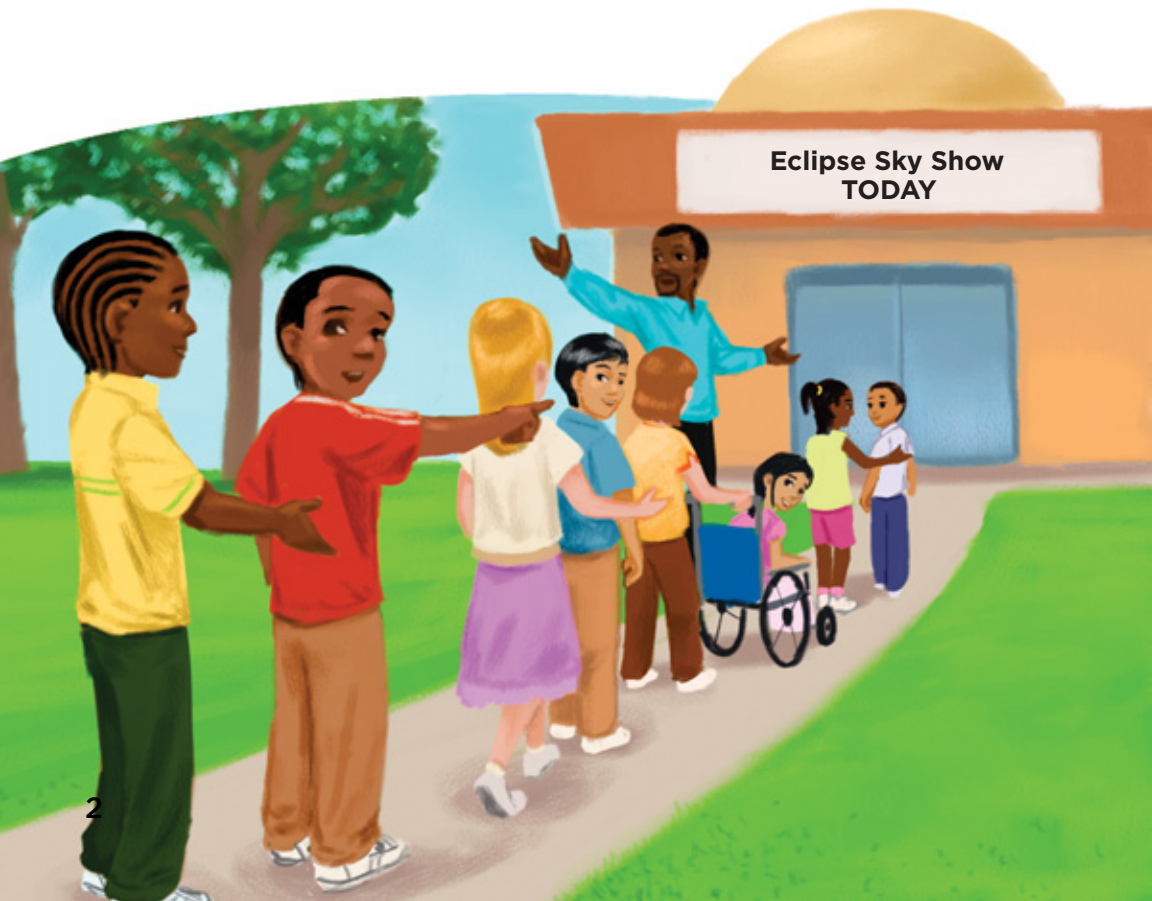
# Chapter 1

## Class Trip

“This way.” Mr. Washington waved to his second-grade class. The students were lining up to go inside the planetarium.

Malik waited for Jamal. As usual, Jamal was the last one off the bus.

Malik was Jamal’s neighbor. They were also best friends. But Malik did not enjoy waiting for Jamal. He liked being first.



“Why does everything always take you so long?” Malik grumbled.

“Unlike you, I wait my turn,” Jamal said.

Mr. Washington was waiting inside when the boys finally caught up. “We have an hour before the sky show begins,” he told the class.



Mr. Washington continued speaking. “Until then, you can look at the exhibits in pairs. Have fun,” he added, “but not too much fun.” He looked directly at Jamal and Malik.

“Why is he looking at us?” Malik asked Jamal nervously.





“Because on our class trip to the zoo an elephant almost ate your hat,” Jamal reminded him. “That zookeeper was pretty angry.”

“Oh, that! It was an accident!” Malik insisted.

“Boys,” Mr. Washington interrupted them. “Settle down. We’re here to learn about what happens during an eclipse. Do you know anything about that already?”

Malik knew you couldn't see the sun during an eclipse, but he wasn't sure why exactly. "It's when the sun sets in the middle of the day?" he guessed.

Mr. Washington shook his head. After he left, Jamal shook his head, too. "The sun can't set in the middle of the day, silly."

"I know that," Malik said, embarrassed. "Come on, let's go see how much we would weigh on Mars."





## Chapter 2

# The Sky Show

Finally, it was time for the sky show. “This is the weirdest movie theater I’ve ever seen,” said Malik. “There’s no screen!”

“You watch the movie on the ceiling,” Jamal told him, pointing.

Malik leaned back in his chair. It was soft and comfy. “I wish I could take this chair home with me,” he said. “It’s better than a bed!”





Soon the room darkened to black. Then the ceiling began to sparkle with twinkling stars. “That looks nice!” said Malik. The boys lived in the city, so they didn’t get to see real stars very often.

The sun flew across the ceiling. It rose and set in fast motion. The moon moved across the sky, too.

Malik knew it was just a movie, but the moonlight made him feel sleepy, as if it really were nighttime.

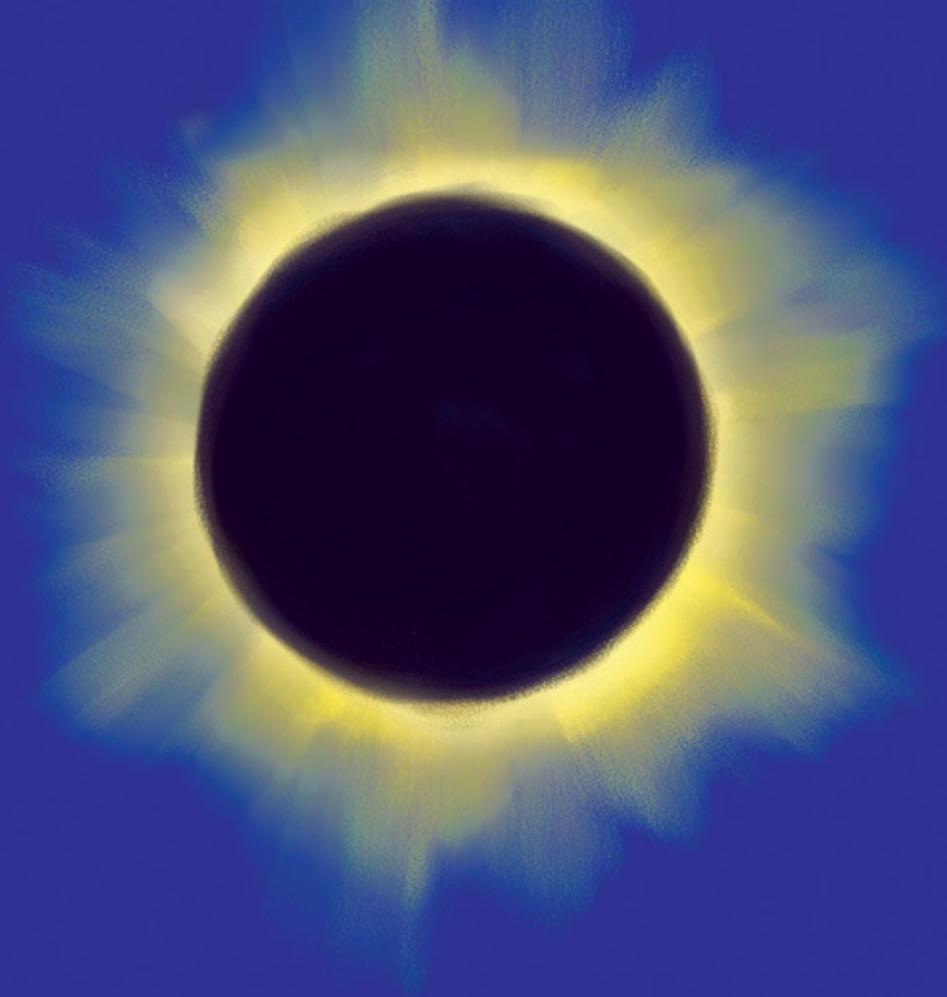




A voice began narrating the movie. “The moon circles Earth about once a month. Once in a while, it gets in between Earth and the sun. The moon blocks the sunlight, which makes a huge shadow on Earth. People who are in the place where the shadow falls have a solar eclipse.”

Jamal loved the sky show. It felt like an exciting adventure in a movie. He glanced over at Malik. Malik’s eyes were closed.





The narrator continued, “During a solar eclipse, the sky turns dark blue. The brilliant edges of the sun blaze out from behind the moon. This is called the corona, or crown.”

The movie showed people watching an eclipse. They were wearing strange-looking glasses. “It is dangerous to look at the corona or the sun without eye protection, even during a solar eclipse,” explained the narrator. “This can lead to permanent eye damage.”



## Chapter 3

# Back To Earth

The sky show ended too soon for Jamal. As the lights came back on, Malik stretched and yawned. “I dreamed I was on Mars,” he said. “You were there too.”

“You missed out,” Jamal said as they followed Mr. Washington outside. “That sky show was better than any dream.”



The class sat on benches to eat lunch. “So, what did I miss?” Malik asked, taking a bite of his sandwich.

“We saw a real eclipse. Well, it wasn’t real because it was a movie, but it looked real,” Jamal explained.





“I found out that an eclipse is a huge shadow over part of the world. And the sun doesn’t just set in the middle of the day,” Jamal joked.

Usually, Malik did not let Jamal get away with teasing him, but his dreams had left him too delighted to care. He moved his arm so it cast a shadow in front of them. “Watch this,” he said. “I’ll eclipse that leaf!”





Mr. Washington walked over to the boys. “So what did you learn about an eclipse?” he asked Malik.

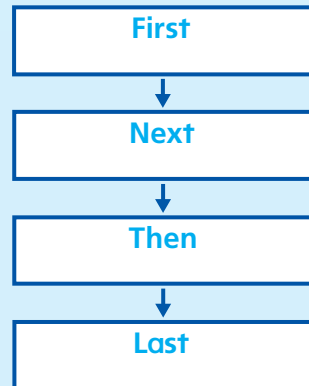
“Uh, it’s like a shadow?” he said, looking at Jamal. His friend nodded with a grin.

“Hmm,” said Mr. Washington with a puzzled look, “and I thought you’d gone to sleep!”

# Respond to Reading

## Summarize

Use the Sequence chart to help you summarize *Shadows in the Sky*.



## Text Evidence

1. Is *Shadows in the Sky* fiction or nonfiction? How do you know? **GENRE**
2. What happens after Malik settles into the chair? **SEQUENCE**
3. Use what you know about compound words to figure out the meaning of the word *moonlight* on page 8. **COMPOUND WORDS**
4. Write about what happened to the boys and might happen next. **WRITE ABOUT READING**

## Compare Texts

Read more about eclipses.

# Eclipses



People may use filters or even a sheet of cardboard to view an eclipse safely.

Total solar eclipses are very special. There are only one or two each year, and they are only visible in certain parts of the world. Some people travel halfway around the world to see one! That's a long trip for an event that's very brief.

A solar eclipse lasts for a few hours from start to finish. During the eclipse, Earth, the moon, and the sun line up. The shadow of the moon passes over Earth. The sun is totally covered up for just a few minutes.

The sun's corona, or outer atmosphere, is usually too dim to see—except during a solar eclipse.



The moon is more than 200,000 miles away, but it can still block our view of the sun.

How can our small moon block the light from our huge sun? Try this. Hold your notebook in front of your face. See how it blocks your view of much larger things? Objects close to you seem larger than faraway objects, which look much smaller than they really are. Even though the moon is tiny compared to the sun, it can still block the sun's light from reaching Earth.



### Make Connections

What can you see during an eclipse?

#### ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What would Malik think about *Eclipses*? **TEXT TO TEXT**

# Focus on Literary Elements

**Plot** The plot tells the events of a story in sequence: first, next, then, and last.

**What to Look For** Look for what the characters do, where they go, and what happens to them. In *Shadows in the Sky*, a second-grade class goes to a planetarium to see a sky show. First, they arrive at the planetarium. Next, the show starts. Then they watch the show about eclipses. Lastly, the boys talk about what they learned about eclipses.

## Your Turn

Imagine you are writing a fiction story about what people see in the daytime or nighttime sky. Think who your characters will be and where the story takes place. Then make a sequence chart that shows *First*, *Next*, *Then*, and *Last*. Write two things that happen in each part of the story.

Fiction

# Thinkmark

## Setting

Where does *Shadows in the Sky* take place?

Could *Shadows in the Sky* have taken place someplace else? Why or why not?

## Characters

Who are the characters in *Shadows in the Sky*?

How would you describe Jamal?

## Sequence of Events

What happened **first**, **next**, **then**, and **last** in *Shadows in the Sky*?

## Make Connections

What other things do you know about a planetarium?