Overview

Aqua, Latin for water, is a NASA Earth Science satellite mission named for the large amount of information that the mission is collecting about Earth’s water cycle, including evaporation from the oceans, water vapor in the atmosphere, clouds, precipitation, soil moisture, sea ice, land ice, and snow cover on the land and ice. Additional variables also being measured by Aqua include radiative energy fluxes, aerosols, vegetation cover on the land, phytoplankton and dissolved organic matter in the oceans, and air, land, and water temperatures.

Eclipse Science

Aqua measures in microwave, infrared, visible, and ultraviolet wavelengths and will view the central and eastern U.S. during the occurrence of the eclipse. One instrument in particular, the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer, or MODIS, will be able to show the Moon’s shadow on Earth particularly well.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
Mission Project Home Page: https://aqua.nasa.gov
Additional Information: https://www.nasa.gov/aqua