

Unit: Cooking with the Sun and Solar Ovens

Lesson #12: Individual Independent Projects

Solar Power Research Project Ideas

Here are some ideas to get you started! Happy brainstorming!

1. Research family life in a refugee camp in Africa. Contact Solar Cookers International and raise a class donation and/or write letters.
2. Study different cultures and their customs, stories, poems, songs dances and beliefs about the sun. Write a story or poem, draw a picture, compose song lyrics, make a sculpture or perform a dance relating to something you have learned about the sun.
3. Write directions to make sun tea and sun oven cookies. Design an invitation for another class to attend a solar tea party.
4. Submit an idea to Solar Cookers International for a solar oven design and/or an inexpensive plastic oven cover.
5. Create and illustrate a chart for chefs showing the solar cooking time of different foods.
6. Write and illustrate an informational handout about the basic requirements of solar cooking.
7. Design a poster advertisement for a certain solar oven design that you are fond of.
8. In a display, compare the amount of sunlight and rainfall in different parts of the world.
9. Research different types of cooking fuels and energy sources exploring where they come from and their effects on the environment. Create a display.
10. Explore the cost of pasteurizing drinking water and of treating diseases caused by unsafe water. Compare the two costs. Create a display that highlights this comparison.
11. Design a toy, car or simple machine that runs on solar power. Write instructions or create a presentation explaining how your design works.
12. Invite a guest speaker who works with solar energy to visit your class.
13. Translate information about solar cooking into (or from) another language.
14. Learn about solar panels and how they work. Create a comic strip that shows how they work.
15. Construct a 3-D scene of a family at their home in Africa using a Solar Cooker.

16. Design and carry out an experiment using two identical solar ovens to test one variable. Present your findings to the class.
17. Design your own innovative project that teaches others something of interest relating to solar energy.