



FLORIDA SOLAR ENERGY CENTER®

Creating Energy Independence

Engaging Students in Solar Thermal Technology Experimentation

Solar Cooker International Conference

Gujarat, India 2017

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FSEC Research & Activities

- Solar
 - Photovoltaics
 - Solar Thermal
- Hydrogen
- Buildings
 - Energy Efficiency
 - Energy Audits
- Electric Vehicles
- Workforce Development
- **K-12 Education**



FSEC K-12 Education

- **Curriculum & Resources**
 - www.fsec.ucf.edu & www.energywhiz.com
 - Lending Library
- **Professional Development for Teachers**
 - Solar (photovoltaics and solar thermal workshops), Hydrogen, Biofuels, Energy Efficient Building Sciences and Environmental Issues
- **Student Outreach – Hands-on, Project-based learning**



Student Outreach Education

- Project-based learning with a focus on renewable energy technologies and use of **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) to solve real world energy and environmental problems
- **EnergyWhiz** is a forum where students showcase their hands-on, energy-related projects and their STEAM capabilities.



EnergyWhiz Activities



Electrathon



Junior Solar Sprint

EnergyWhiz Activities



Energy Innovations



Critter Comfort Cottage

EnergyWhiz Activities



Solar Energy Cook-off



SCIWC2017



Solar for Underserved Populations (Solar UP)

Purpose:

- To engage students in solar thermal experimentation.
- To find real-world solutions to the problem of access to safe drinking water across the globe.



SCIWC2017

Solar for Underserved Populations (Solar UP)

Methodology:

- Provide Professional Development for Teachers
- Develop supplemental curriculum
- Integrate this “project” within the successful solar energy cook-off program within EnergyWhiz



Solar UP

Professional Development for Teachers

- Coordinate hands-on workshop
- Design experiment protocol
- Build solar designs for testing
- Test at local schools



Solar UP

Professional Development for Teachers

- Solar Thermal Workshop for Teachers
- January 21, 2017 at FSEC
- 35 teachers are registered to attend
- Four solar thermal designs will be explored and built during the workshop
- Use of Fresnel lens will be introduced
- Teachers will be issued **two challenges**.



Solar UP

Challenge 1-

- Using a Fresnel lens, adapt one of the solar cooker designs from the workshop to more rapidly pasteurize water for a specific human population within a geographic area of the world.

Challenge 2-

- Develop a testing protocol to determine the effectiveness of the enhanced solar cooker design and implement the testing protocol.

To meet above challenges We have defined roadmap in five steps- A to E



Solar UP

Teachers will implement the testing protocol at their schools with students

A

Students will research the geographic area and refine the design based on the human population using the enhanced solar cooker

B

Students will do additional testing and evaluation of their solar cooker.

C

Students will submit their cooker designs with associated research information as part of the Solar Energy Cook-off within EnergyWhiz

D

Designs will be reviewed and evaluated by solar scientists and researchers from FSEC

E



Conclusion

It is expected that students will:

- develop a better understanding of solar cookers and their **effectiveness**.
- Understand the importance of **access to clean water**.
- Identify places in the **world where life-saving solar thermal technology** would be of great benefit.





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Thank you for your patience!
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