



# At Home With The Sun:

Solar Energy for Young Scientists

Currently Out Of Print



IN A NUTSHELL

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**Cost:** \$7.95

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## SUBJECTS

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Science

Social Studies

This brief book introduces students to solar energy, the role of the sun in providing energy in nature, and human use of solar power throughout history and today. The text explains some of the basic physics of solar energy (e.g., light reflection, use of glass in greenhouses) and the history of human energy consumption, and goes on to describe solar water heating systems and photovoltaic cells. The activities provide opportunities to experiment with solar energy models. Projects include constructing a pizza box solar oven, making a greenhouse out of a shoebox, turning a soda can into a model hot water heater, and determining the student's own energy use. Most of the activities can be completed using common household materials. Text is in large print with simple vocabulary, and includes drawings and a glossary.

<b>Grade Level</b>	K-6
<b>Length</b>	32 pages
<b>Date Published</b>	1995

**THE** BOTTOM  
LINE

“Put together like an ‘infomercial’ that’s trying to sell the idea of solar energy.”

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy		Does not list sources of information. Presents only positive aspects of solar power.
	Depth	Includes information from different nations. Addresses historical, cultural, economic and environmental aspects. Has unifying theme with logically connected concepts.	
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Allows for some critical and creative thinking, e.g. data collection, drawing conclusions from observations, developing extensions to experiments.	
	Action Orientation	N o t A p p l i c a b l e.	
	Instructional Soundness	Connects with learners' lives in terms of energy use. Allows learners to build on previous knowledge. Activities are hands-on.	
	Usability	Materials are inexpensive, accessible, easy to use. Emphasizes safety.	

“*At Home with the Sun* is a collection of short, easy to do projects, good for filler work or as a unit to understand solar energy.”