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|  |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | |  | onto a solar panel.  In the same way that children use a magnifying glass to burn leaves and insects, a magnifying lens would focus light onto a solar panel in order to increase the total sunlight hitting the panel.  Again, the objective would be to increase the power output while using less total panel.  As a glass lens would become expensive, not to mention heavy, a useful recommendation is the use of what is called a fresnel lens, a flat sheet (usually of plastic) with numerous grooves, causing it to act as a lens.  The major drawback to using either of these methods over extended periods of time is that the concentration of sunlight would heat up and melt the panel itself.  A cooling system would need to be established, but for the means of this project, no such system will be needed or used. |  | |  |  | | | |  | | |
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|  |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | |  | Our solution...a dish covered with mylar, a reflective plastic |  | |  |  | | | | | |  |
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