

Lesson Plan – Solar Panel Installation

This lesson plan is likely to last for around 1 hour, although you may like to adjust the timings to fit with your lesson lengths.

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 10 mins | <p>Start by asking the class what they know about solar panels and ask follow up questions to help them explain about solar panels.</p> <p>Talking points could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- It is renewable energy- It only works when there is Sun (but scientists are working on ways to store this energy and use it when Sun is not available, such as at night)- Solar panels are cheaper than fossil fuels- Solar panel plants have a long lifetime (40 years or more) |
| 10 mins | <p>Explain to the students that the main task of this lesson is for the students to go around the school and think about what the best place for solar panels would be. Before they do this, ask them to think about what criteria they may need to think about.</p> <p>This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- What direction they need to face and why- It must be a place with as little shadow as possible- What angle should it be at (remembering that this may affect the effectiveness of the solar panels at different times of year when the Sun reaches different heights at midday) |
| 30 mins | <p>The students now have half an hour to go round their school and find the place they think is the best for the solar panels. This can be done in a range of ways. You may like to let the students go to whatever place they want, or you may wish to give them a list of places to visit and rate on their suitability for solar panels. They may also need a compass to help them determine which way the solar panels would be facing.</p> |
| 10 mins | <p>Finally, ask each group of students which place they chose and why. Make sure to take their suggestions on board when you install solar panels in your school!</p> |