

Build your own solar panel project technical instructions

- The technical instructions need to have an introduction that includes how photovoltaic cells work. The explanation should be three-five paragraphs and written on an eighth-grade level. There are many good sites, <http://www.howstuffworks.com/solar-cell.htm> and <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/photovoltaics.html> are particularly good sites.
- Consider splitting your instructions into sections. Start the section with a brief overview of (no more than one paragraph) and a picture or two of what it looks like after completing the section.
- Don't overlook the importance of a photograph and don't forget you can use draw programs to draw arrows or circles on your photographs to make your instructions more clear. Remember what it was like for you to wade through the instructions you were given with the kits. A picture is worth a thousand words and much quicker to understand.
- Be sure to format your instructions consistently.
- Include a parts list
- Convert your completed file to a .pdf format. **Send the .pdf file to me.** You can download a free pdf maker program at <http://www.primopdf.com/> to convert your files.

Grading Rubric

Category	Possible points	Your points
Introduction – how solar cells work	20	
Parts list	10	
Logical section order	15	
Consistent formatting	15	
Writing clarity/organization	40	