

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2010 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J1033

Project Title

Solar Air Heater

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

I think that on a sunny day there will be more heat produced from the solar air heater, than on a cloudy day, because the sun's energy has nothing blocking its way.

Methods/Materials

Materials:

Compass/Tape measure/Large piece of cardboard/Duct tape/White gesso paint/Flat black acrylic paint/Paintbrush (3-inch)/Plastic disposable plates(2)/Scissors/Exacto knife/Ruler/Thumbtacks(18)/Thin cotton string, 12-foot long piece cut in two equal lengths/Plastic wrap/Masking tape/Lab thermometer/Lab notebook/Timer

Methods:

I took temperature measurements on two different days, a cloudy day, and a sunny day. Both days I had to wake up at 7:00 a.m. and take masurements until 6:00 p.m. I recorded my measurements in my lab notebook.

On the cloudy day I woke up at 6:45 a.m. to prepare to take my 7:00 a.m. measurements. Each hour I had to take 6 measurements, three intakes and three outputs. Then I had to find the average temperatures for the intake and output temperatures. My last measurement was at 6:00 p.m.

On the sunny day I woke up at 6:45 a.m. to prepare to take my 7:00 a.m. measurements. Each hour I had to take 6 measurements, three intakes and three outputs. Then I had to find the average temperatures for the intake and output temperatures. My last measurement was at 6:00 p.m.

Results

The solar air heater produced more heat on a sunny day than on a cloudy day.

Conclusions/Discussion

The results of my experience show that my hypothesis was correct.

I learned that solar air heaters produce more heat in a sunny place. In a cloudy place the solar air heaters produce some heat, but not as much heat as in a sunny place.

Summary Statement

Solar air heaters produce more heat on a sunny day than on a cloudy day.

Help Received

My parents helped me built the solar air heater and put it in the window.