TAKE A STANCE

COULD WE RELY ON SOLAR POWER AS OUR ONLY SOURCE OF ENERGY IN THE FUTURE?

FLORIDA'S SUN IS BRIGHT AND SHINING MOST OF THE TIME!

Read the information and article provided about the sun and solar panels; then complete the chart to help you develop your opinion; before you TAKE A STANCE!

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THE SUN TODAY

Did you know that the Sun is the largest object in our solar system? As we gaze onto our sky during the day we see a large glowing sphere.

This sphere seen from the surface of the Earth is actually only one of millions of stars shining in our galaxy. The Sun is about 93 million miles (149.5 million km) from Earth. If you think about it; that's a really long distance to have light energy travel.

However, as far as this is, the sun's light and heat only takes about eight minutes to reach. That energy helps supply light and heat to our planet.

Look at a second hand of a clock or a watch and you'll be amazed to learn that within a seconds time about 695,000,000 tons of helium & 5,000,000 tons of energy convert into gamma rays.

As the energy travels out toward Earth's surface, it is continuously absorbed and re-emitted at lower and lower temperatures so that by the time it reaches the Earth's surface, it is primarily a visible light.

The Sun gives life to Earth from all the energy the Sun makes and provides . This energy could be similar to 40,000 times the power needed by the United States.

That's a lot of energy!

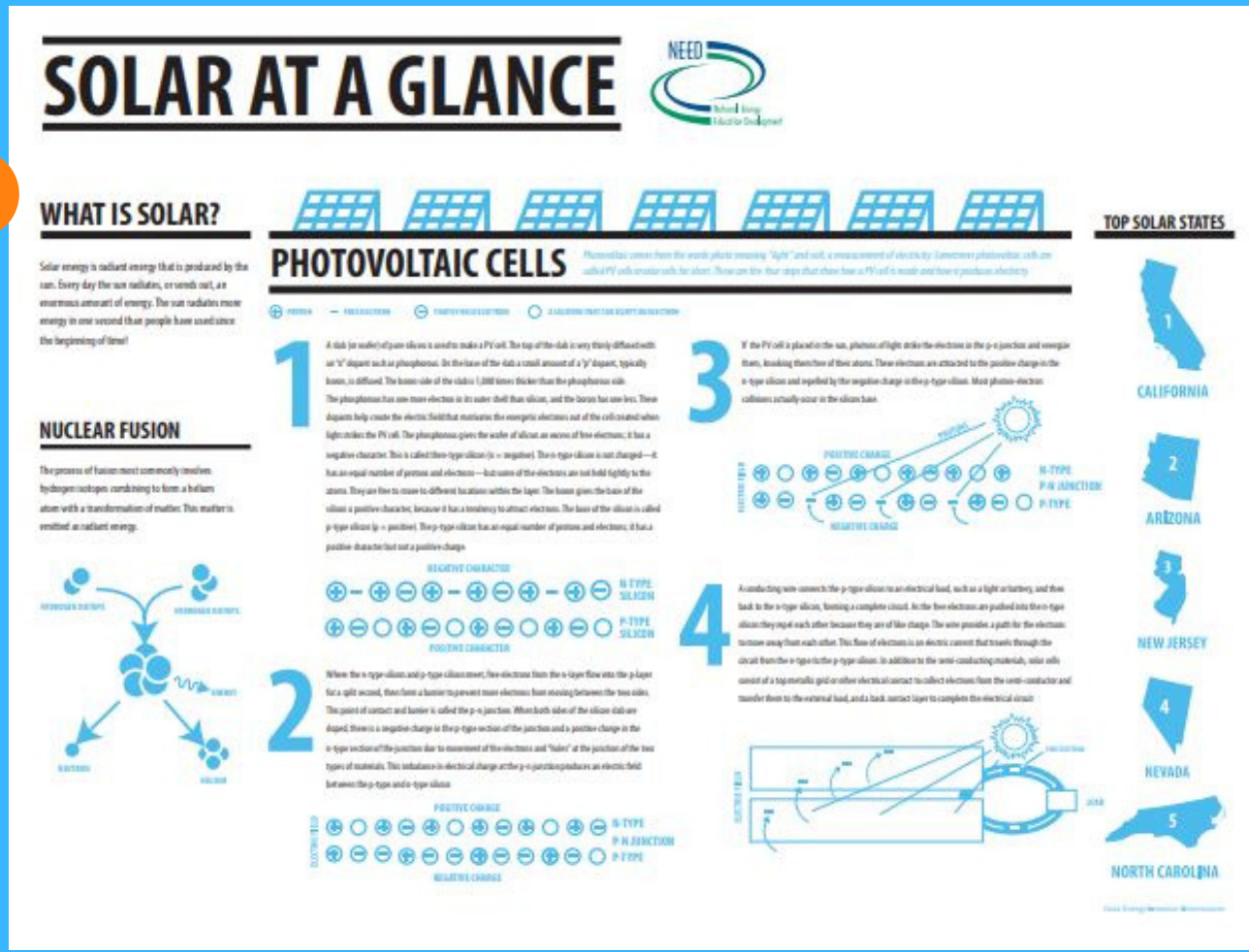
How do humans use all this source of energy? In recent years we've heard about solar panels being added to many homes around the United States and abroad. This renewable source of energy has the ability to harness the sun's power and provide homes with some of the energy it needs to become self sufficient. But will this work in all areas of the country?

There are many states and countries that see many months of cold weather, cloud covered rain storms, and even a bare glimmer of the sun. What happens to solar panel usage in those places?

Can they use them? Are you able to harness any energy in these conditions? A lot of people would think that there wasn't anything coming through that overcast day; but the reality of it is that although they wouldn't receive 100% of the sun's energy; solar panels can capture about 60% .

As our technology is ever changing ;can there be a time that we only use the sun as our only source of power?

TAKE A LOOK AT HOW OTHER STATES ARE USING SOLAR PANELS



Take a look at this chart provided by the National Energy Education Department. It shows us how solar energy is being use in a few of our states already.

https://www.need.org/Files/curriculum/Energy%20At%20A%20Glance/SolarAtAGlance_11x17.pdf

FLORIDA IS LEADING THE WAY ON THE USAGE OF SOLAR PANELS

Florida Power & Light Unveils 'Bold' Plan To Become Global Leader In Solar Power

January 16, 2019 at 1:30 pmFiled Under:Florida Power and Light, FPL, Local TV, Solar Power

MIAMI (CBSMiami) — Florida Power and Light is announcing details on its plan to make Florida a global leader in solar power.

FPL says it is planning to install 30 million solar panels across the state by the end of the next decade. Laid end-to-end, the 30 million solar panels would wrap around the Earth one and a half times.

It would be the largest installation of solar panels by a regulated utility in the world and provide a 67-percent fleet-wide reduction in carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions rates by 2030 as compared to the national average, according to FPL.

FPL is the Sunshine State's largest solar producer, generating ten times as much solar power in 2018 than it did in 2016.

FPL and its sister company, NextEra Energy Resources, are already the world's largest producer of renewable energy from the wind and sun and, when this plan is completed, FPL expects to be the largest utility owner and operator of solar in America.

"FPL is not your traditional electric company," said Eric Silagy, president and CEO of FPL. "We're a technology company that delivers power, and we've long believed in making smart, forward-thinking infrastructure investments to produce tangible, long-term benefits – cleaner air, lower electric rates and reliable service – for our customers and our state. Now we're taking our long-standing clean energy commitment to the next level. Bottom line, this bold, innovative plan is the right thing to do for our customers and for our fast-growing state and we look forward to working with local and state officials and our regulators to make this vision a reality."

“I am supportive of programs that will provide Floridians with greater access to affordable, clean energy which will help propel the State to a healthier future,” said Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. “We live in the Sunshine State and solar energy is a natural resource that should be seriously considered. FPL’s initiative is important. As Florida’s energy needs continue to grow at a rapid pace, it is important that we diversify our energy resources. This is vital to the economic well-being of our State and quality of life for residents.”

FPL has studied solar technology for decades and already operates 18 large solar power plants and hundreds of other universal solar installations across Florida.

FPL’s first solar power plant in Miami-Dade County is scheduled to come online early this year.

Take A Stance!

After reading the information provided on the Sun and solar panels; Do you think we should rely solely on Solar Power in the future?

Why or Why Not?

Look at all the facts provided then write down the reasons why you think solar power may or may not be the only source of energy used in the future. Write 3-5 reasons to support your opinion.

YES, IN MY OPINION.....

I think we will be able to rely solely on the SUN as a source of energy.

1._____

2._____

3._____

4._____

5._____

NO, IN MY OPINION.....

I think we will not be able to rely solely on the SUN as a source of energy.

1._____

2._____

3._____

4._____

5._____