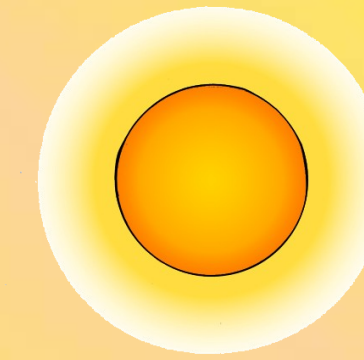




Cactus Moon Education, LLC.  
Understanding Green Technologies

# SOLAR ENERGY



(sen02po)

Solar energy is the energy we receive from the sun in the form of heat and light.

We can use solar energy to make electricity.

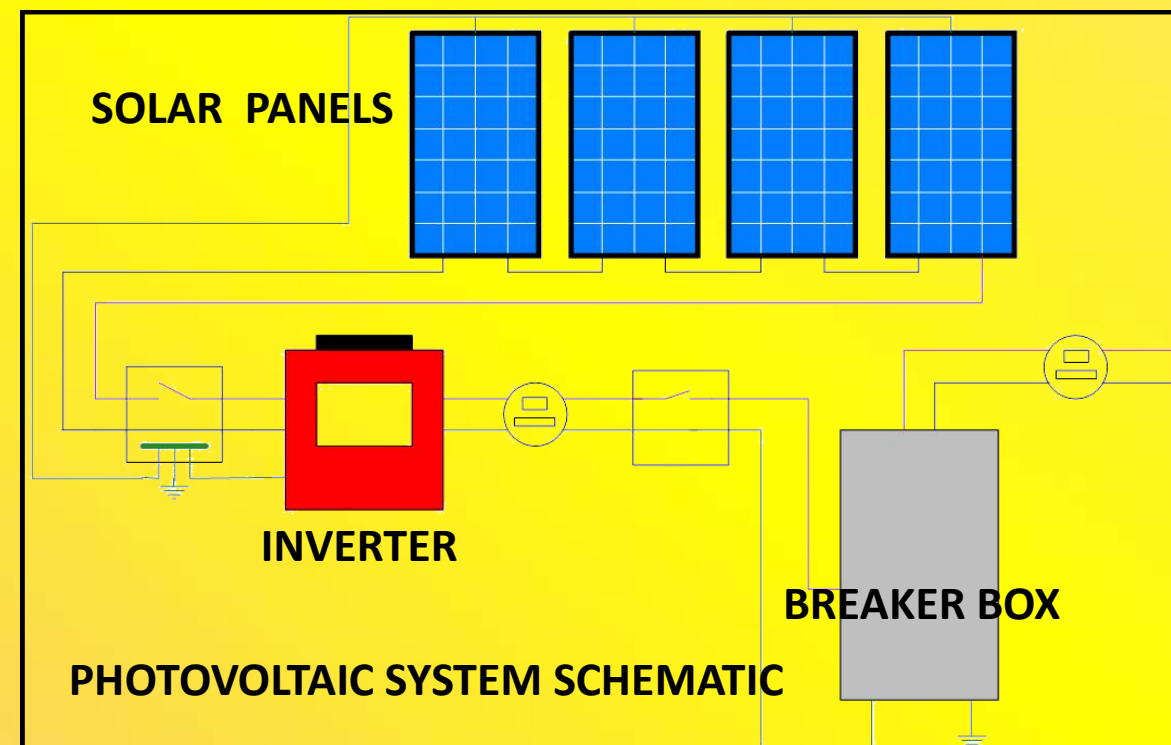
Solar panels are made from special materials which can convert sunlight into electricity. The electricity made by solar panels can be used to help power our homes and even cities.



PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER PLANT

How it works:

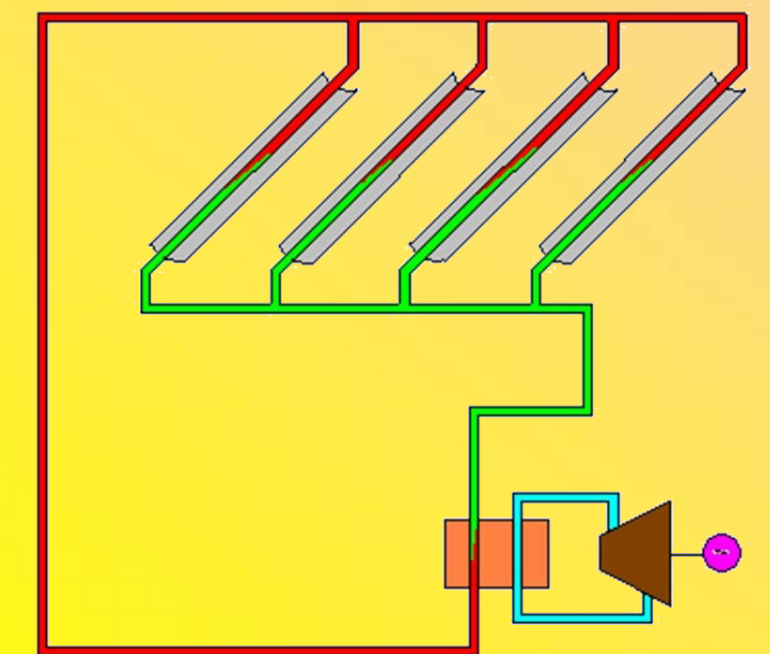
Solar panels convert sunlight into Direct Current (DC) electricity.



An inverter contains electronic circuits that convert the DC electricity into AC electricity which can be used in our homes.

The heat energy we get from the sun can also be used to produce electricity. It can also be used to heat water for our homes.

Solar (thermal) collectors harvest the sun's heat energy and use it to heat a liquid such as water, oil, or molten salt. The hot liquid can be stored for later use or used immediately to make steam to power an electric turbine/ generator or to provide heat.



SOLAR THERMAL PARABOLIC TROUGH



SOLAR THERMAL POWER TOWER