

TAC Lesson Plan Template

Name: J. Minton	School/Grade/Subject: RES/8th grade/Science	Date: June 2015
Lesson Title: Introduction to Renewable Resources-Solar Energy		
Standards & Objectives: W1: Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. GLE 0807.T/E.1 Explore how technology responds to social, political, and economic needs.		
Tools/Resources Needed For Lesson: Computer PowerPoint Notes (with overview of unit and important vocabulary) Video over renewable resources Article with reflection question		
Lesson Summary: Beginning lesson, in which students will be exposed to the material as a whole and understand what their focus will be. They will be introduced to renewable resources, a main focus on solar energy. They will have an introduction to active background knowledge and overview the next several lessons. Students will have a reading/writing component with this lesson in which a non-fictional text will be given.		
Digital: www.educanon.com/public/105419/250056?cn=s (Video Discription: “As the Earth heats up at a dangerous rate and fossil fuels become scarcer, ordinary citizens and businesses are bypassing the federal government to lead the way in exploring a clean, renewable source of power: the sun. In this report, NOVA shines a light on how and why people across America and the world are "going solar," using radiant energy of the sun to power homes, businesses, and even entire communities. But can everyday people really make a difference by using solar power? And can solar technologies, with their high cost and logistical challenges, truly play a bigger role in powering the future of humanity? The grand hopes, latest innovations, roiling controversies, and practical realities of solar power all come to the fore in this program.”) PowerPoint for Notes and Relevant Vocabulary		
Non-Digital: Article “The Sad Fate of Jimmy Carter’s Solar Panels” (Renewable: the world-changing power of alternative energy)-- In Jeremy Shere’s article “The Sad Fate of Jimmy Carter’s Solar Panels,” Shere discusses the US president’s ideas for a national solar energy initiative. Write an explanatory essay in which you explain the president’s stand and the roadblocks he had to endure.		

Collaboration:

Students will discuss their essay responses in order to understand more than one perspective on renewable energies, historical implication, and the political importance of Jimmy Carter's time.

Back-Up Plan:

The article and video can be swapped as needed if the technology is not functioning at the beginning.

Assessment/Outcome:

The video has questions that the students will answer during the course of watching the material. The written response essay for the article is an assessment piece. At the end of this lesson, students should have a working knowledge of renewable energies, solar vocabulary and the importance of solar energy, and a short history of solar energy.

Reflection: