

The power of the sun

i This resource supports you to implement a short sequence of inquiry about Australian scientists and scientific discoveries. It culminates in students' participation in the Restore Science campaign, where they can highlight their love for and/or the importance of investing in Australian science.

AC Year 5: [AC9S5H01](#); [AC9S5H02](#); [AC9E5LY06](#)
Year 6: [AC9S6H01](#); [AC9S6H02](#); [AC9E6LY06](#)

AUSTRALIAN SCIENTISTS

Discuss

- What does a scientist do?
- Do you know any of the different types of scientists?
- Do you know the names of any Australian scientists?
- Do you know about any important Australian Scientific breakthroughs or inventions?

Watch



<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/aussie-scientists/10488692>

Read

Learn about how Australian scientists played a part in the design of the solar panels now used worldwide.

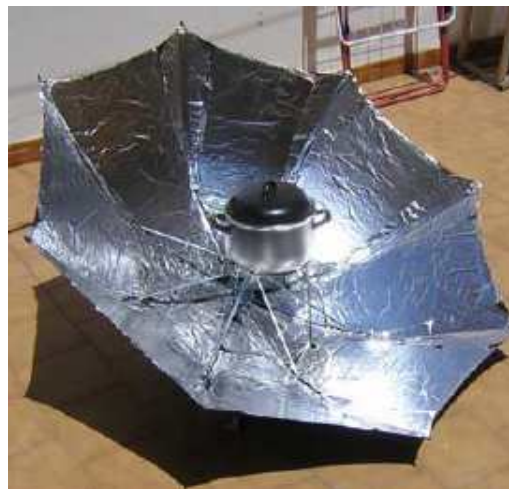
[When a solar breakthrough became a broken record](#)

Watch



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziCT62hC44w>

HARNESSING THE POWER OF THE SUN



[La Cocina Solar Paraguina, Juanmc1978, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons](#)

You might

- Harness the power of the sun yourself by making a solar oven.
- Use the design from [CSIRO's Double Helix](#), or use their design as a starting place for your own.
- Design a fair test to determine how you can make your oven work most efficiently.
- You might test to see if the size of the box makes a difference, or more layers of foil or cling wrap.
- Remember you can only change one variable.
- Use an [investigation planner](#) to help you plan your investigation.

You might also

- Research to find out how a solar panel works.
- Research about the scientific discoveries that lead to the creation of solar panels.
- New ideas: What do you think might be next for solar panels? How could they be used to power more things?
- Conduct a survey to find out how many households in your class/school have solar panels at home. How could you determine how efficient they are?

RESTORE AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE



RESTORE
SCIENCE

Individual task

Create a text to explain how you built your solar oven, and what you found when you were investigating its efficiency.

Include in your text an explanation of why science is important.

A C T

Your text can be anything you like- a letter, an interview script, a comic book or a news report—be creative!

Publish your text and send it to your local MP through the [Restore Science](#) website (<https://restorescience.com.au/schools>), or have your teacher send it for you.

As a class

Take a photograph that shows the class engaged in Science. You might be designing, testing or gathering data.

Create a text that identifies what you love about science and why it is important. Send your text to your local MP through the [Restore Science](#) website (<https://restorescience.com.au/schools>).