Groundbreaking Research

Is Water-Based Renewable Energy an Alternative to Fossil Fuels?
Explore a catalyst-based process for splitting water, from scientists at MIT

Solar energy may be available for immediate use, but storing the energy for use when it is dark is a challenge. In Water to Fuel to Water: The Fuel Cycle of the Future, you can try the process of splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen, fuels that can be used to produce clean electricity--anytime. The use of a cobalt-based catalyst makes the process more energy-efficient. (Difficulty: 7-9)

Don't Miss These New Project Ideas!

Creepy Characters: Successful Animation
Is there such a thing as "too realistic"?

The idea of the uncanny valley comes from robotics, but according to box-office sales, it may be an important factor for audiences. In That's Creepy! Exploring the Uncanny Valley, you can test audience reaction to a range of movie or TV characters. (Difficulty: 6)

Plug-and-Play Electronic Drums with PicoBoard
Create a Scratch program to "play" the beats you make on a set of makeshift drums

Hook a set of foil-covered plates (your drums) to a PicoBoard and the Scratch programming environment in the Customize Your Own Drum Set computer science project to explore resistance-based input. (Difficulty: 6)

Taking It Even Further!
Designing and testing your own music-based game

If you are interested in video game design and/or computer programming, you could design a novel project exploring "natural mapping" in games where users are asked to "play" an

Explore a Future in Science and Engineering!

The following career profiles have been added to the Careers in Science pages:
- Biomedical Engineer
- Cardiovascular Technologist or Technician
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
- Cytotechnologist
- Dental Hygienist
- Pathologist
- Physician Assistant
- Physics Teacher

Just Released!

The following Project Ideas were recently added to the Science Buddies directory of 1000+ projects:
- A Sweet Sequence: The Cacao Genome*
- Build a Gauss Rifle!
- Do Your Storm Drains Keep the Ocean Trash Free?
- Does Your Cell Phone Leak? Measuring Cell Phone Radiation
- HAMing It Up with the Astronauts*
- How Far Will It Fly? Build and Test Various Paper Planes
- Smart Medicine Cabinet: Build a Sensor That Reminds Patients When to Take Medication*
- Water Drops and Sparks!
instrument to rack up on-screen points. How might you combine the following projects: Out of Control!, Want To Make a Video Game? Here’s How!, and Customize Your Own Drum Set? We'd love to see what you come up with!

(Science Buddies projects in computer science are sponsored by Symantec Corporation. Projects in video and computer games are sponsored by the AMD Foundation.)

Science Project Success!
As McCray, a 2nd grader in North Carolina, knows, science projects begin with a question: Was Squanto right about fertilizing crops with fish? With the help of his family and his pet pig, McCray put it to the test on the family farm. It's a great Science Buddies in Action story! If you have a science project or science fair success story to share, please contact us at SciBuddy@sciencebuddies.org.

I Did This Project!
Congratulations to the students who won an iTunes gift card for filling out an I Did This Project report last month as part of our newsletter contest. Winning students have been notified via email. If you completed a Science Buddies project, please use the "I Did This Project" button (on the project page) and let us know how it went! Your feedback on our projects helps the Science Buddies' community!

Don't Miss...
- Follow our "This Day in Science History" posts at Facebook.
- Check our Summer Science Camp resource to find fun and exciting summer programs you might enjoy.
- The Whiz Kids documentary will be shown on PBS, beginning this month! Tune in to follow the story of three top science students!

On the Blog
- Birds on the Move
- Programming a Logo
- DIY Musical Instruments
- A "Science Mom" Thumbs-Up Science Detectives Series
- Natalie Portman: A Winning Combination
- Sorting Things Out with Paper Chromatography

Quick Links
- Project Ideas
- Topic Selection Wizard
- Project Guide
- Scientific Method
- Careers in Science
- Ask an Expert Forums
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