

Science in the Summer

Summer Offers Time for Fun, Hands-on Science Exploration

Lazy summer days and lemonade? What could you build, test, design, explore?

School may be out for the summer, but that doesn't mean scientific inquiry has to get tucked away with your backpack, lunchbox, and No. #2 pencil! **Summer is ripe with opportunities to ask questions and seek answers**, whether it's on a [family camping trip](#), in the [kitchen](#), by the [beach](#), while [tie-dyeing](#), with a [guitar](#) in hand, using a bucket of [LEGO®](#), in the [garden](#), or even with a bit of [fire](#).

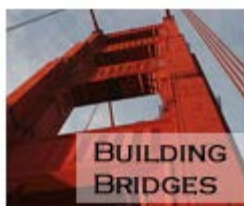
No matter what your hobby--or where your family might be headed for a summer getaway--you can find a science angle to investigate... **just because you want to!**

And that No. #2 pencil? There's a lot you can learn from a trusty stick of graphite. Experiment with [resistors and circuits](#), re-wire a light to use a [dimmer](#), or investigate [thigmotropism](#) in touch-sensitive plants. (*Think a pencil's just a pencil? Check out last-year's Nobel-winning research on [graphene](#).*)



What will you explore?

Making Connections



Kudos!

Congratulations to recently-announced [winners](#) in the **2010 Science Buddies - Lick Observatory Astronomy Contest**. Winners received cash awards and equipment, courtesy of Celestron, for **thinking big and beyond!**

Summer 'Fellows'

Science Buddies is excited to welcome its first group of Summer Science Fellows! This summer, six recent graduates, all of whom participated in the Intel ISEF as seniors, are applying their science expertise and enthusiasm to various projects for

Beat the Heat

Summer Days and Summer Rays

Bright, warm, and long summer days can give added zing to your solar-powered projects. From being UV-savvy to thinking about the ways in which solar energy offers smart and exciting solutions for a "greener" tomorrow, the following projects are all sun-warmed:



- [Solar Speedway](#)

[The Frightened Grasshopper: Explore Electronics & Solar Energy with a Solar-Powered Robot Bug](#)

- [From Brine to Beverage: Solar-Powered Salt Removal](#)
- [Get Something for Nothing: Free Power from the Sun!](#)
- [How Does Solar Cell Output Vary with Incident Light Intensity?](#)
- [The Speed of Light: Explore Solar Energy with a Supercapacitor Car Motor!](#)
- [Colorful Chemistry Creations: Make Your Own Sun Print with Color and Sunlight!](#)
- [Don't Get Burned! Measure the UV Index at Different Times of the Day](#)
- [Build Your Own Helio Tracker-a Self-powered Mechanical Sunflower that Turns with the Sun*](#)

Science Buddies. In addition, [the Fellows](#) will attend special presentations designed to help them as they transition to college and into the larger scientific community.

Follow Us

Stay in touch day to day and all summer long by joining our [Facebook community](#). Click "Like" to add us to your favorites!



Your Science Stories

- Are you at science camp this summer? If you are spending time in a summer science program and **having fun exploring science** in exciting hands-on ways, we'd love to [hear your story!](#)



Quick Links

- [Project Ideas](#)
- [Topic Selection Wizard](#)
- [Project Guide](#)
- [Scientific Method](#)
- [Careers in Science](#)
- [Ask an Expert Forums](#)

Copyright © 2011 Science Buddies. All rights reserved.
www.sciencebuddies.org