Solar Smart Home Challenge: High School Division (9-12)



Criteria	Novice	Proficient	Advanced	
CREATIVE CONCEPT (40%)				
 Purpose How creative & purposeful is design? Is there alignment between the design, inhabitant(s), & environment? In what ways is solar appropriate? 	 Project identifies inhabitants & environment Purpose may be unclear Solar may not be best choice 	 Design is purposeful Solar is appropriate for design Good consideration of inhabitant(s) & environment 	 Design is purposeful & creative Demonstrates rich understanding of inhabitant(s) & environment Solar is appropriate & integral to design 	
 Resourcefulness/Ingenuity How creative is construction & materials usage? How purposeful are material & construction choices? How cost effective are the design choices? 	Use of some found materials that are recycled or upcycled	 Creative construction & material use At least 50% of materials are found objects that are recycled &/or upcycle 	 Found/reused materials are not only upcycled, but are significantly deconstructed & redesigned Creative, purposeful construction & material use Comprehensive & wide-ranging materials Considered cost in design choices 	
 Aesthetics How well built is the device? How is craftsmanship evident? How are considerations made for technical components? 	 Demonstrates basic craftsmanship Technical components are not easily accessible 	 Demonstrates craftsmanship: thoughtful care put into finishes & design Technical components are accessible 	 Demonstrates significant craftsmanship: complex & thoughtful design Visually appealing: Polished finishes, tidy, significant attention to appearance Technical components are integrated seamlessly with attention to accessibility 	
 World Connections To what extent does the project respond & demonstrate knowledge of real-world global, environmental, &/or socio-cultural conditions? 	 Makes mention of real-world conditions or challenges Demonstrates some understanding of inhabitant(s) & environment conditions 	 Project design & description consider real-world conditions & challenges Demonstrates good understanding of inhabitant(s) & environment conditions 	 Project design & description respond to real-world conditions & challenges Demonstrates holistic understanding of inhabitant(s) & environment conditions 	
DESIGN & KNOWLEDGE (40%)				
 Functionality To what extent does the project function as intended? To what extent do circuits demonstrate considerations for loads, switches, & storage? To what extent are microcontrollers 	 Project functions in testing environment Circuitry is basic & functional Load(s) & switch(es) are mostly functional Microcontroller is present, 	 Project functions as planned in testing environment Circuit(s) demonstrate consideration for load(s) & switch(es) Switch(es) identified, accessible, & functional 	 Project functions well in testing environ Circuits are well-designed & demonstrate good consideration of loads, switches, & storage Switches are identified, accessible, functional, & integrated into design Loads are purposeful, functional, & well-integrated into design 	

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utilized & programmed?	 (not purposeful or integral) Programming utilizes pre-written code with no changes 	 Load(s) purposeful & functional Microcontroller adds to functionality, but is not integral to design Programming utilizes pre-written code with some modifications, demonstrating basic coding knowledge. 	 Microcontroller use is purposeful, functional, & well-integrated into the design. Students programmed microcontrollers with team written code, demonstrating good coding knowledge & understanding. Storage streamlines circuitry creatively 	
 Knowledge To what extent is understanding of solar energy demonstrated utilizing appropriate concepts & terminology? To what extent do descriptions & explanations of circuitry include accurate rationales for choices? 	 Basic solar energy knowledge Basic vocabulary 	 Knowledge of solar energy, circuits, & grid systems Vocabulary is appropriate & related to the context of their project Rationale for design choices is provided 	 Demonstrates rich understanding of solar energy & larger clean energy landscape Demonstrates rich knowledge of solar components (panels, circuits, capacitors, microcontrollers, etc.) with sophisticated & appropriate terminology & concepts Strong & well-supported rationale for design choices 	
 Research & Documentation How robust is the team's research? In what ways did they organize & present documentation of their design process? How evident is their design process? How systematic were they in their design process? 	 Documentation details the systematic design process Documentation includes: Smart Home Narrative Solar Panel Schematic Wiring Diagram(s) Programming Code Materials List 	 Documentation show the design process including imagery, iterations, & variables Narrative is clear & informative Solar Panel Schematic & Wiring Diagram(s) & Programming Code are clear Materials List is clear & includes costs 	 Documentation shows a thorough & detailed design process including sources imagery, iterations, variables, & research Smart Home Narrative is compelling, engaging, & robust Solar Panel Schematic & Wiring Diagram(s) are clear, thorough, & reproducible Programming Code is clear, thorough, reproducible AND written by team Materials List is clear, thorough, & costs are evident 	
COLLABORATION & COMMUNICATION (20%)				
TeamworkHow did they work together & collaborate on the project?	Emerging understanding of what it means to work on a team.	 Balanced participation & contributions. Identified each teammate's role 	 Balanced participation & contributions Identified & discussed each teammate's role in the project 	
 Delivery In what ways was the presentation engaging & interesting? How was preparation & planning demonstrated in the presentation? 	 Project was presented Could have used more practice 	 Well presented Evidence of prior practice Within time limits Responded to questions appropriately 	 Dynamic & engaging presentation Evidence of significant planning & practice Well paced & within time limit Responds with confidence to questions & elaborates on response 	

