



Solar FUNdamentals



Guiding question: How do we use sunlight and shade to help us?

Introduce your youngest students to solar energy! VEEP has designed an introductory unit on light and shadows for K-3 that incorporates engineering principles in engaging, hands-on lessons, using NGSS and Common Core as frameworks. The FUNdamentals engineering lessons focus on design with an emphasis on students sharing their ideas and methods. In a lab style environment, students simulate the sharing community between engineers and scientists to create a community of learners.



A Solar FUNdamentals workshop consists of one, or a combination of the lessons from the full unit. A VEEP educator will bring in a lesson on testing different materials for their light blocking abilities, or engineering structures to cast shadows and comparing their size in winter and summer, at noon and afternoon.

The students make predictions, conduct experiments, make observations, discuss the pros and cons of their designs, and redesign them. These lessons celebrate the student as explorer, tinkerer and collaborator and they lay the foundation for deeper understandings of energy in higher grades.

VEEP also offers professional development trainings for teachers and others teaching in formal and non-formal educational settings who are interested in bringing this unit to their classroom and lends kits of all necessary materials to run the unit.



Contact us at info@veep.org or 802-552-VNRG if you are interested in learning more or bringing this workshop into your class.