

# A STEM in the Park

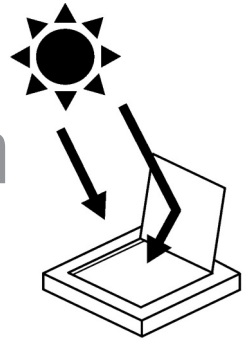
## Take Home Activity

# STEM

in the **PARK**™

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

# Making a Pizza Box Solar Oven

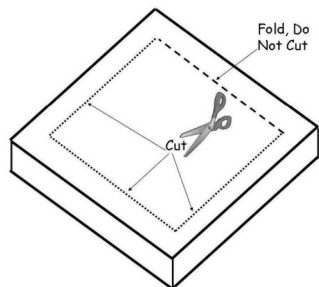


### **What You Need**

- Recycled pizza box
- Black construction paper
- Aluminum foil
- Clear plastic (heavy plastic laminate works best)
- Non-toxic glue, tape, scissors, ruler, magic marker
- Wooden dowel or straw

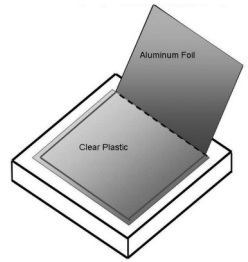
### **How to Make Your Pizza Box Oven**

1. Draw a one inch border on all four sides of the top of the pizza box. Cut along three sides leaving the line along the back of the box uncut.

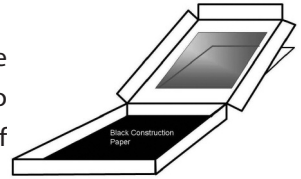


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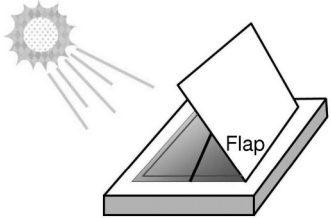
2. Form a flap by gently folding back along the uncut line to form a crease. Cut a piece of aluminum foil to fit on the inside of the flap. Smooth out any wrinkles and glue into place. Measure a piece of plastic to fit over the opening you created by forming the flap in your pizza box. The plastic should be cut larger than the opening so that it can be taped to the underside of the box top. Be sure the plastic becomes a tightly sealed window so that the air cannot escape from the oven interior.



3. Cut another piece of aluminum foil to line the bottom of the pizza box and carefully glue into place. Cover the aluminum foil with a piece of black construction paper and tape into place.



4. Close the pizza box top with the window, and prop open the flap with a wooden dowel, straw, or other device and face towards the sun. Adjust until the aluminum reflects the maximum sunlight through the window into the oven interior.



Your oven is ready! You can try heating s'mores, English muffin pizzas, or hot dogs, or even try baking cookies or biscuits. Test how hot your oven can get using a simple oven thermometer!

*This solar oven has been adapted from many designs. Please feel free to improvise! Plans and instructions courtesy of Solar Now, Inc., ([www.solarnow.org](http://www.solarnow.org)) of Beverly, MA, dedicated to promoting education about renewable energy and the environment.*

***This activity is brought to you by BGSU Dining***

