

Name: _____

Date: _____

Life Science

Period: _____



Catching Some Rays

by Sarah Web

www.ScienceNewsForKids.org

Read the article “Catching Some Rays” and answer the following questions in complete sentences. You will be graded according to the previously distributed rubric.

1. **Photosynthesis** is the process by which plants produce energy that they can store and then use. What materials do plants require to perform photosynthesis? Where in the plant does photosynthesis occur?

2. Why does solar power appeal to researchers who are looking for new ways to power our lifestyles?

3. From what source do we currently get most of our energy? What are two problems associated with this power source?

4. Why is hydrogen a desirable alternative to our current fuel source?

5. The article states that scientist Maria Ghirardi is “trying to trick them (algae) into producing hydrogen instead of sugars when they perform photosynthesis”. Explain the two ways in which she is trying to “trick” the algae.

6. How is Professor Daniel Nocera attempting to use energy from the sun to provide us with an alternative fuel source?

7. This article mentions various ways of making alternative energy. In a minimum of four complete sentences in a cohesive paragraph, identify which method you think is most likely to solve the world’s energy problem while providing support to your opinion with facts from the article or elsewhere.
