Solar Panels

**Apparatus**
solar panel, ammeter and/or voltmeter, light source

**Action**
The students hold the cell under the light, and vary the intensity to see what effect there is on the output from the cell.

**The Physics**
The electrons absorb energy (light), allowing them to jump across the band gap, and cause a current to flow. The current is proportional to the light intensity.

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Accompanying sheet:

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Solar Panels

Examine the solar panel.

How does it use photons to produce an electric current?

How is this similar to a diode?

How is it different?