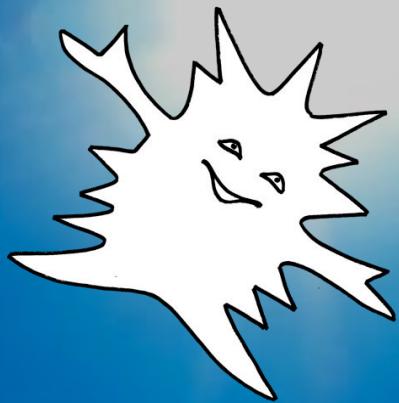
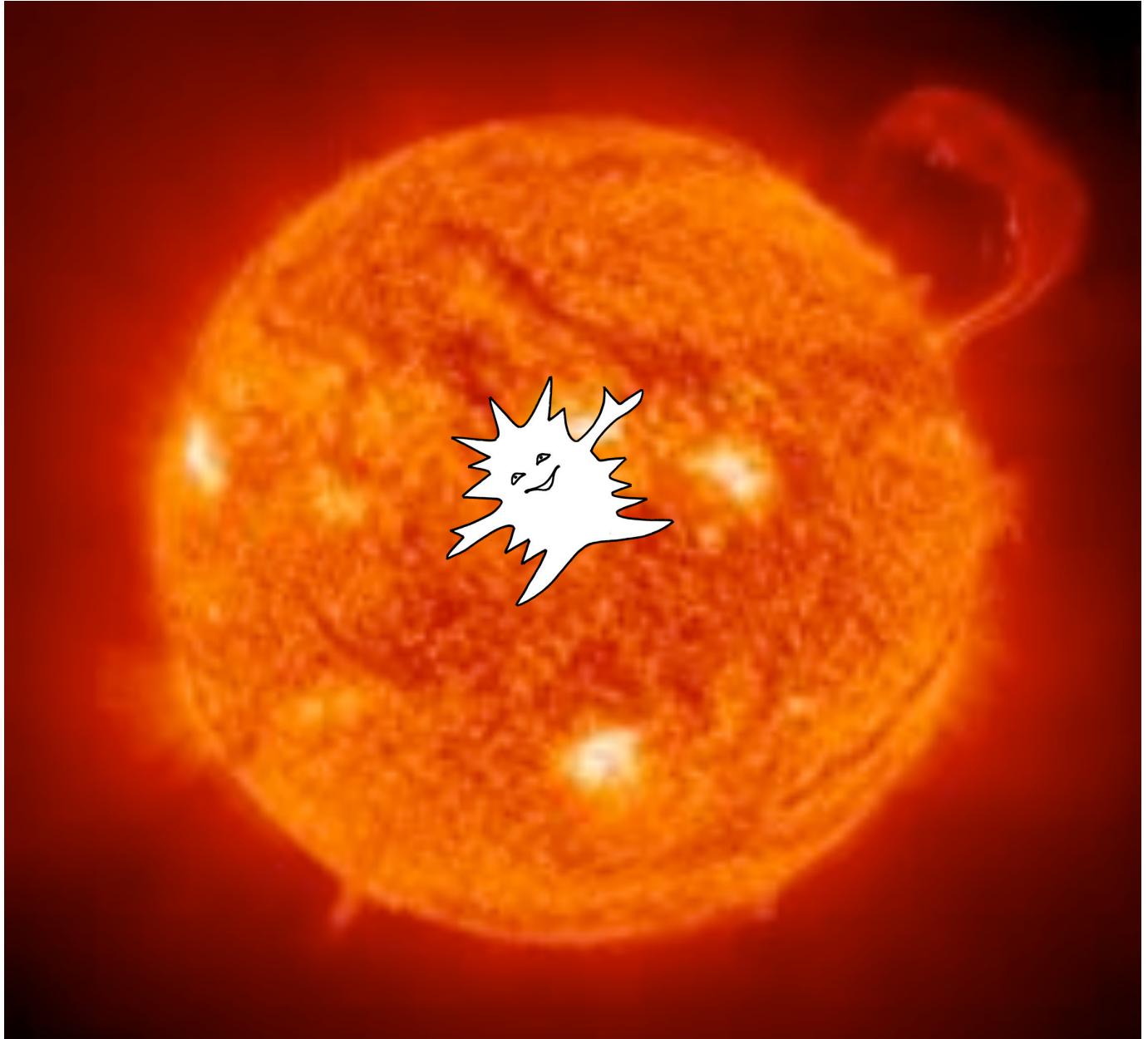


Adventures with Sunny Beam



Hi, I'm Sunny Beam!

I'm just a tiny piece of the sun.
My number is gazillion and one.
I come to your home every day
From 93 million miles away.
Now I want you to come with me.
So put on your spacesuits mentally.



The sun, the sun, the wonderful sun!
Light heat and energy all in one
The original source of solar power
Burning gigatons of hydrogen every hour

The generous sun that never stops giving
Light heat and energy to all things living:
Grasses, plants, trees, crops, animals, birds
And, of course, to human beings.

What do you see when you look closely at the sun?



Now we're leaving the sun for outer space
Where satellites in orbits race
But what powers this machinery
That needs continuous electricity?

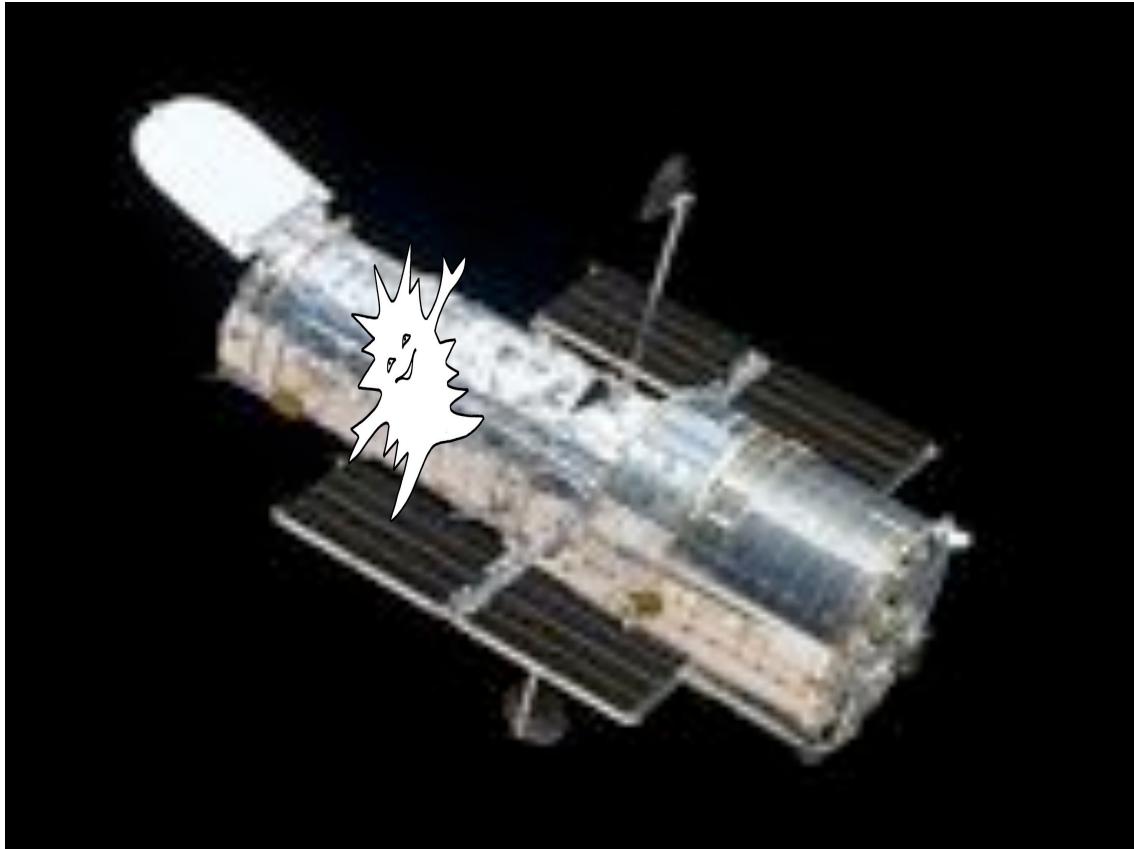
It can't be gas they'd run out fast.
It can't be wires from power plants.
Guess what! They get their power from my dance.

The space ship wings are made of cells
Wired together to make solar panels.
Now there's a dance floor I can't resist
I glide, spin, flip and twist.
And because of chemistry
My dance creates electricity.

Did you know that Solar technology was first used in space?



The Hubble telescope takes photos like these
So you can see fabulous nebula and galaxies.



What powers the Hubble?

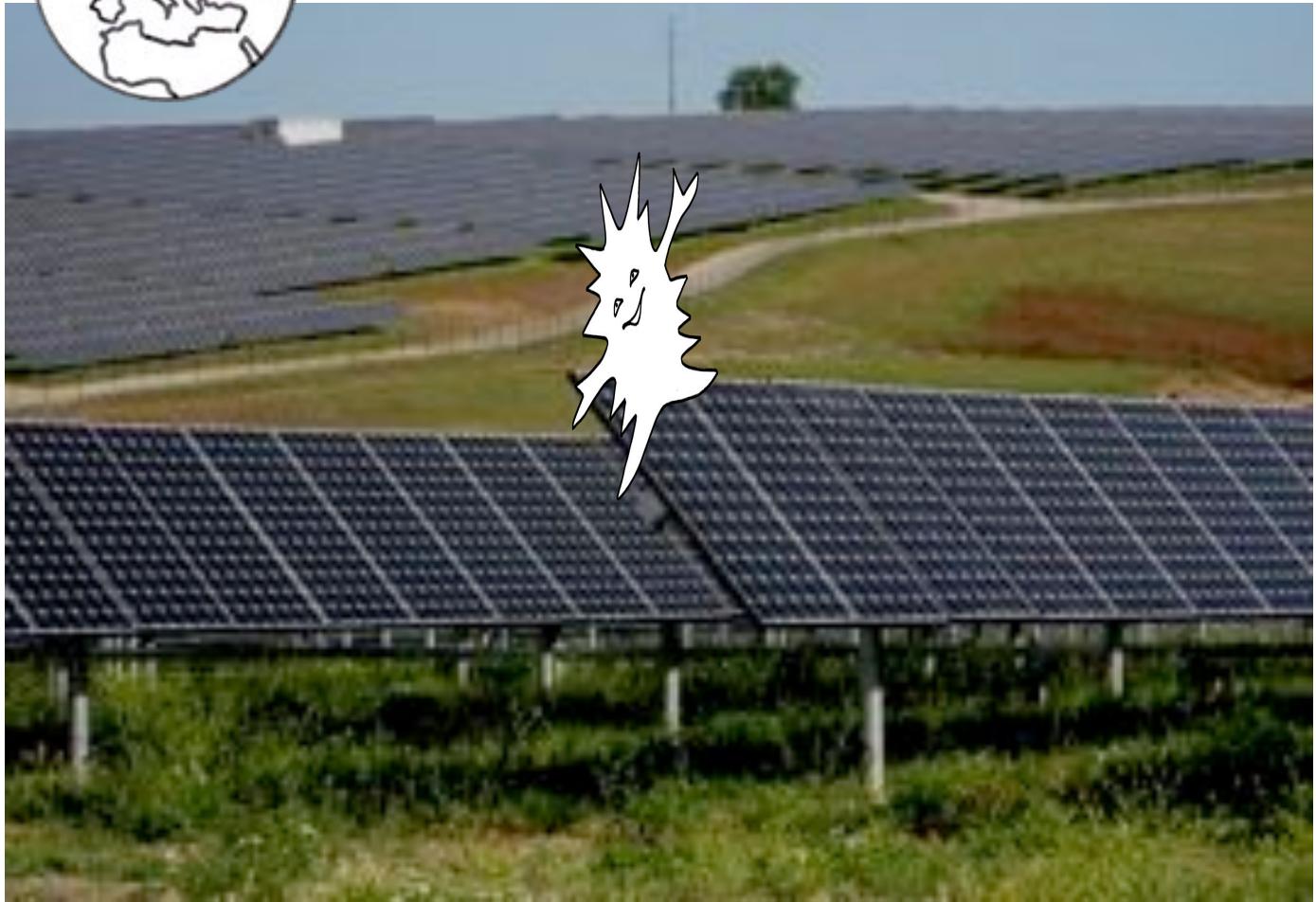


Now back to earth lets go
Do you see Africa below?

Many people in Uganda had no electricity at all
Until a Village Power Project did install
Tiny ten-watt panels on their homes,
Enough for light, radios and mobile phones.

They've stopped using harmful kerosene
Because now they have energy that is clean.

Why do we call solar power green?

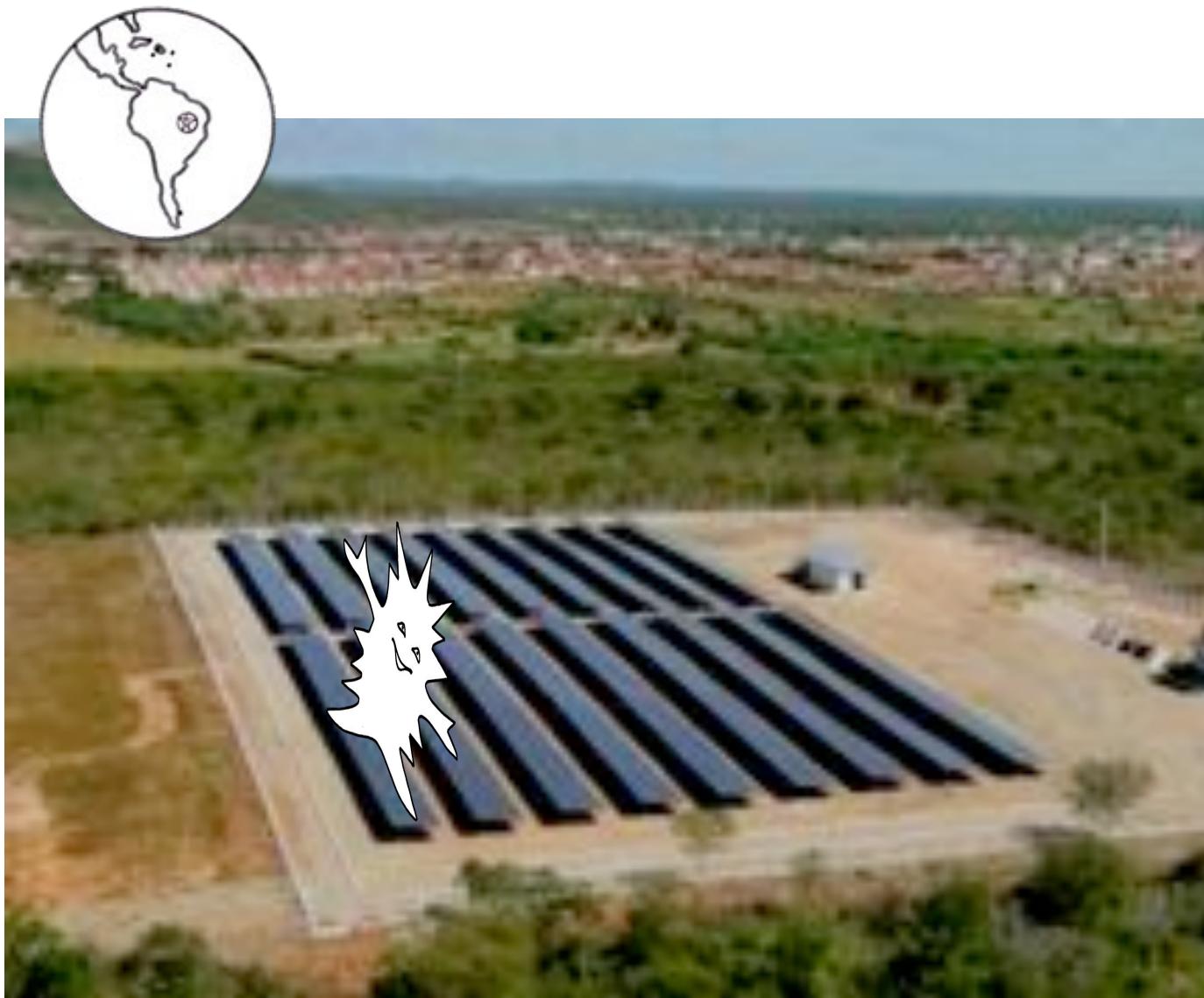


Now to Germany in Europe
Where they pay so much for electricity
Farmers set up panels and sell to the city.

They've just said no to nuclear power
So they will need more solar watts-per-hour.

Germany and Spain lead the world in solar and so
That's why we Beams do a lot of polka and flamenco.

Why do Sunny Beams do those particular dances?



Next stop Brazil, South America
This megawatt plant is tied to the National grid.
Its called grid-tie.
Electricity for 1500 homes it can supply.
The grid mixes kinds of generation
On power lines for the entire nation.

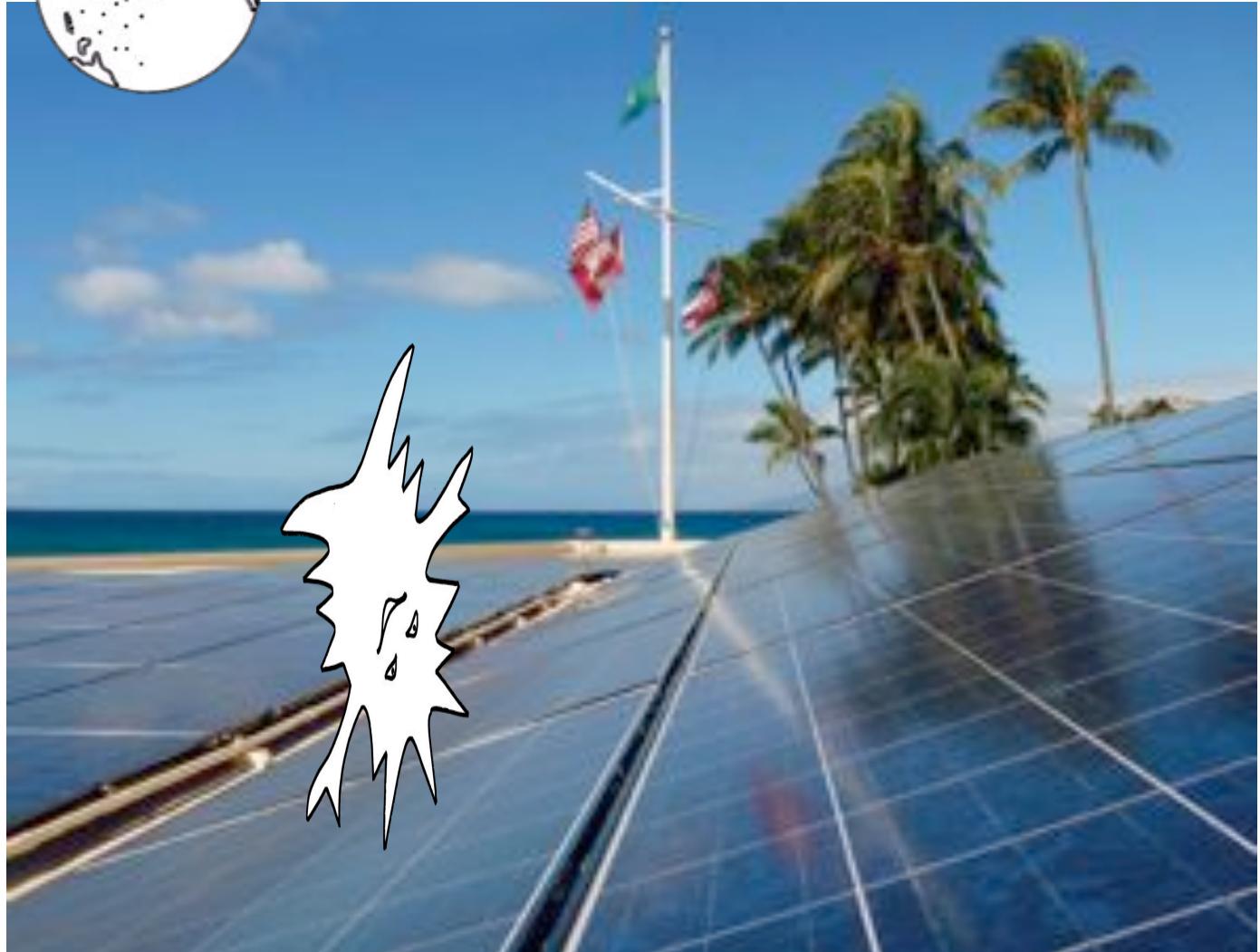
What kinds of power generation do you know about?



Bangladesh in Asia is next on our tour
Fastest growing user of PV,
That's photovoltaic between you and me,
Half its people have no electricity
But soon the world will see
You don't have to be rich to have solar energy.

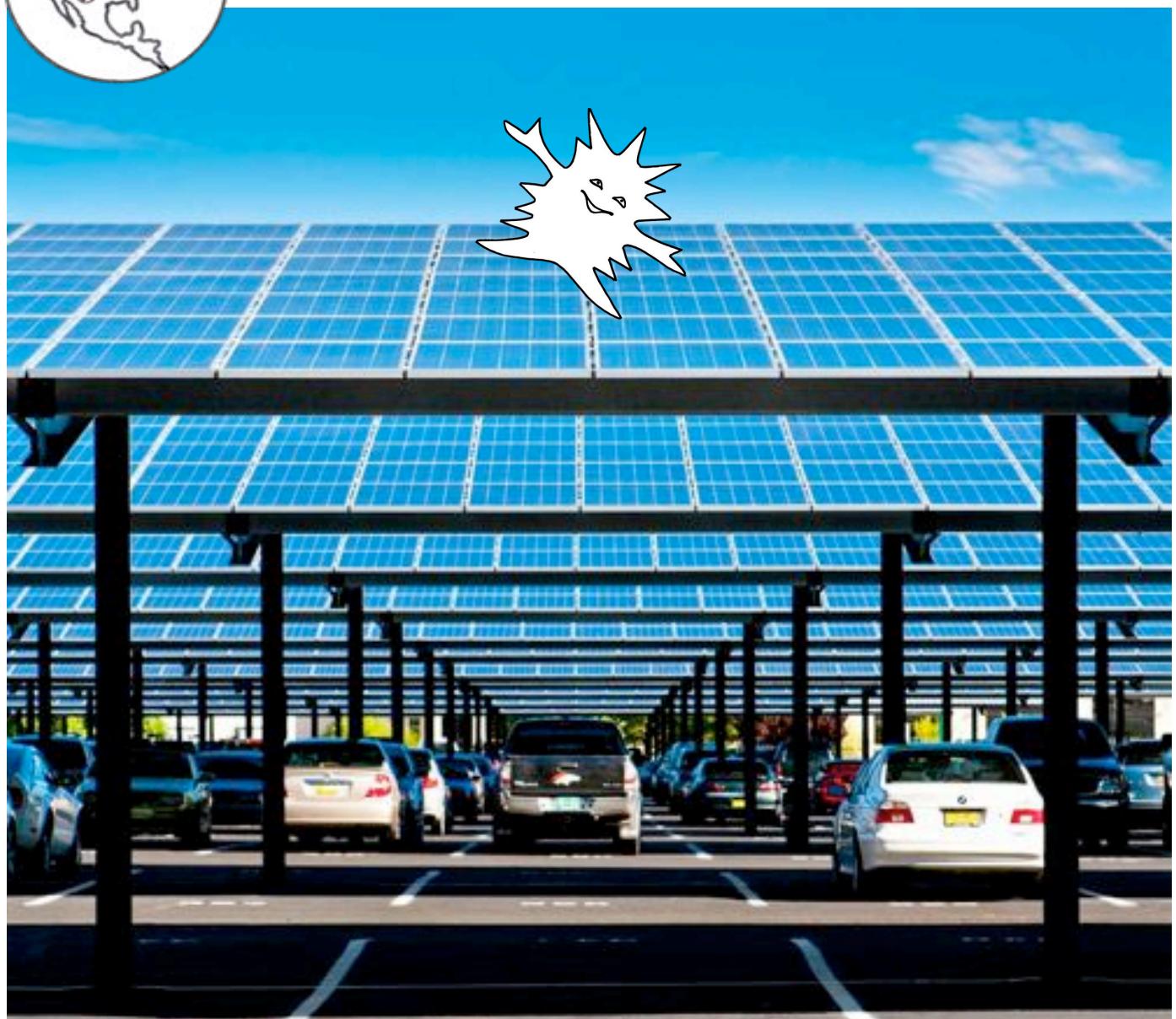


How do solar inventions
change people's lives?



Here is sunny Hawaii, thanks to me
An island unsurpassed in beauty
The people want this beauty to stay
So they are going solar in a big way.
When you don't want fossil fuel pollution
Solar is a great solution.

What is fossil fuel pollution?



Finally we are over New Mexico!
Now what is that we see below?
Albuquerque is getting ready for a car revolution.
Solar carports are their solution.
Plug you car in here and charge it up
For the return trip to Gallup.

Do you think there will be a car revolution?



We've been to the sun and space
And circled the earth and seen its bounty
Now what about McKinley County?

Well, I was saving this for a surprise.
If you already knew you are very wise.
At Gallup High School we have 50 kilowatts per hour
Installed by Native owned Sacred Power.
Designed by Emcore of Albuquerque,
Who were first in spacesolar in 1960.

And there's another big array
On the Federal Building, right downtown.
Look up next time you are around.



Our final stop is on Navajo Land
Here is a Hogan with solar panels.

Do you see the box that is white?
That's battery storage for the night!
Because one thing we Sunnies cannot do,
When the earth turns away, is follow you.
But we can charge batteries for night
So you can still have cozy light.

How is this Hogan like the space station?

The great solar adventure is just beginning
And you, too, are in your first inning.

We Sunny Beams will still be here
When you decide on a career.

Will you invent new ways to play with Sunny Beam?



So in our solar adventure to outer space
and around the earth,
you have seen how important the sun is
for producing energy for all people
in a way that does not harm
our beautiful Mother Earth
now or in the future.

Acknowledgements

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