



This is the apparatus that was used for the solar heating experiment. A styrofoam base was used so that the entire apparatus was easy to transport, and a cardboard box was used to hold the temperature sensors in the correct position. This apparatus could be altered in a number of ways, depending on the needs and resources of the experimenter. The only real important parts of the apparatus are to make sure that the cups are insulated from the ground and to make sure that they are being exposed to sunlight.



The cup covers were made of construction paper and tape. Obviously, this is not ideal, since there is always a small gap between the paper and the cup. In future experiments, it might be a good idea to actually dye the cups so that this problem could be avoided. Also, it would be interesting to find out what size cup cover increases heating the most. For this experiment, all the covers were the same size, but perhaps this altered the results in some way. In any case, the covers used in this experiment provided consistent results, so they are an acceptable model on which to base an experiment.

