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Tracking the Sun

During the last few years, global warming has gone from a myth to a reality, and the world has been searching for clean sources of energy. Sources such as solar energy, yet even though photovoltaic panels are amazing objects of technology, advancements can be made to improve their energy output. A helio tracker, also referred to as solar tracker, is one or more solar panels supported by two axes keeping the solar panel facing the sun. But are these helio trackers worth investing time and money into? In this experiment, using NXT Lego technology, a miniature helio tracker was built and programmed to follow the sun. Both the assembly and programming of the device were done without instructions of any kind. Its energy output was compared to that of a regular solar panel, (both being the same size).