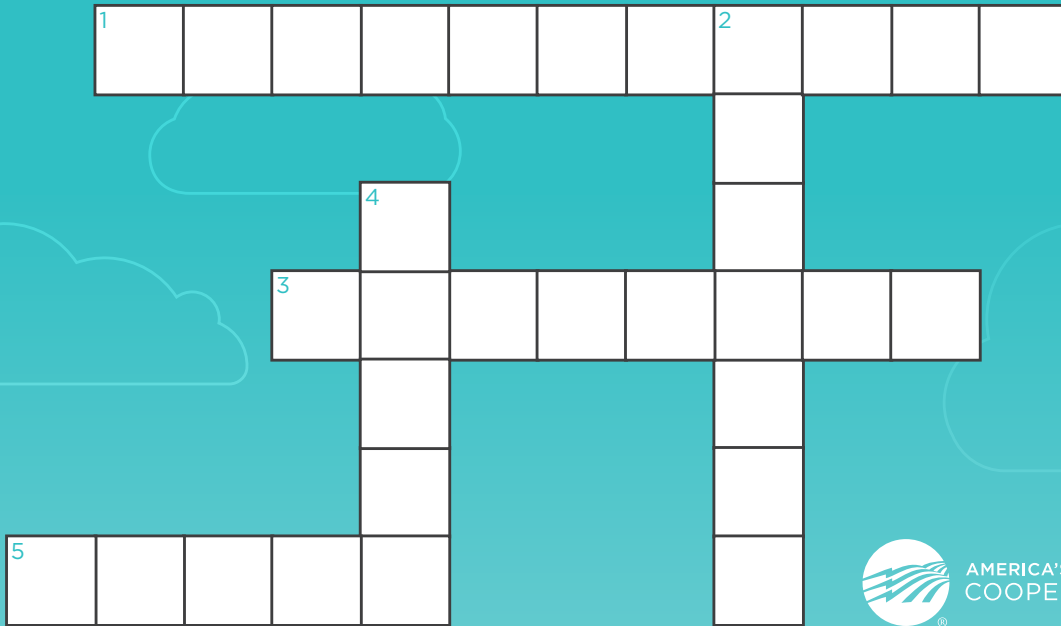
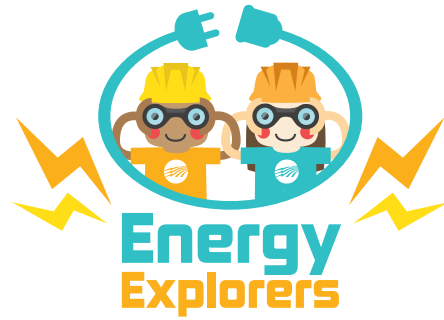


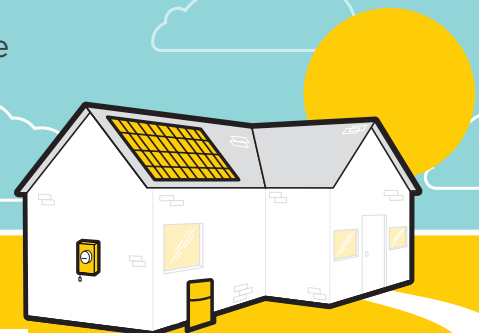
HOW SOLAR PANELS WORK

Did you know energy from the sun can be used to create electricity? Complete the crossword puzzle below to find out how! Use the answer key if you need help.



AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

1. **ACROSS:** Solar panels contain photovoltaic cells that convert sunlight into _____.
2. **DOWN:** Sunlight hits the solar panels and generates a direct _____, or DC.
3. **ACROSS:** The direct current flows to an inverter, which _____ it to an alternating current, AC. (This is the kind of electricity we use in our homes.)
4. **DOWN:** The alternating current flows from the inverter to the home's breaker box, where it's used to _____ appliances and other electrical items in your home.
5. **ACROSS:** If the _____ panels generate more electricity than the home needs, the unused electricity is sent back to the power lines, or electric grid.



ANSWER KEY

1. ACROSS: ELECTRICITY
 2. DOWN: CURRENT
 3. ACROSS: CONVERTS
 4. DOWN: POWER
 5. ACROSS: SOLAR