

Environmental Studies Program
Science Enrichment and Extensions



ENERGY

1. Appliance Practices

Determine and analyze the energy use of 3 - 5 appliances in your home. Research and experiment ways you can reduce the amount of energy they use. Compare your appliance usage with the class survey.

Your report may include: graphs, tables, or pictographs to indicate their use of energy. Describe what conservation practices could be used to decrease the use of these appliances. Make a chart based on those comparisons.

2. Dollars

The cost of energy has an economic impact on families. Choose some ways people can reduce their use of energy and show the dollars saved. The price per kilowatt hour is \$.057. You may use charts, graphs, or illustrations to present your report.

3. Price Per Gallon

Same idea as above, except this time you use your family's automobile as the item to reduce the use of energy. The price per gallon of unleaded regular is about \$1.06. Charts, graphs, illustrations, etc. may be used to present your report.

4. Past and Present

Interview an older person in your family or an acquaintance born before 1946 to compare the past with today in terms of energy use. Make up a list of questions to ask before the interview. You will need to brainstorm and think about these questions before the interview so they reflect your best ideas. Present your project using information from your interview with visual aids. The theme should center on the idea, "Are there practices from the past that we could apply to our lives today?"

5. Practical People

List a number of practical ways people in your neighborhood are cutting down on energy use.

After making your list, make a map of your community that shows the location and type of energy conservation being done.

Your map should cover 3 or 4 square blocks. Some thoughts to get you started thinking about this project would be: bike racks, shade trees on south and west side of homes, conifers on the north or northwest side, recycling bins, awnings, bus lines, etc.

6. Energy Alternatives

Do a report on an alternative energy source. Examine your energy choice by exploring the following: conservation of energy; reduced pollution; cost; practicality (What may be needed to make it practical?)

Use visual aids to make your report interesting and eye catching. If possible, provide a model. Is your alternative energy source being used today and if so with what kind of results?

7. Energy Recycling

One way to reduce the use of energy is to recycle and reuse objects.

- a. Create a list of things that can be recycled and what that means in terms of saving energy.
- b. Make a list of items that can be reused and the energy savings that can result from reusing. Include and illustrate the various ways the items can be reused.

8. Political Energy

Make a list of legislators, senators, congressmen or congresswomen at the federal and state levels and state their position concerning environmental

issues. (Those that relate to energy use, recycling, mass transit, nuclear energy and industrial wastes.)

9. Design It Yourself

Design your own project on how to save energy - maybe an invention. Tell us about it - use pictures, models, graphs, samples, etc. We want to know about it.