

CHAPTER 5: Saving Energy

Aim

The aim of this chapter is to explore energy that is used at home and how it can be saved.

Overview of Chapter

In this chapter the children develop skills and knowledge that will enable them to conduct an energy audit at home.

Working Scientifically Skills

In this chapter the children will be applying and developing the following scientific skills:

- Observing
- Recording and communicating
- Questioning
- Analysing
- Interpreting



Lesson 1 – Energy audit e

Resources

IWB 12 / PowerPoint 12: Guzzler's house

PCM 12: Energy audit of your home

Internet access

Per group: A3 poster paper, crayons, markers, colouring pencils.

Finding out children's ideas:

Discuss with the children ways they use energy in their homes. Record the children's responses.

Questions to promote discussion

- 1 How do we use energy in our homes? Think about each room: The kitchen, the sitting room, the bathroom and the bedroom?
- 2 What electrical appliances do we use most often?

Activity type: Play and discuss

- 1 Play the **Power of One game** from the SEAI website; note any additional energy saving ideas on the whiteboard www.seai.ie/Power_of_One/Downloads/Game/
- 2 Use **IWB 12 / PowerPoint 12** to raise children's awareness about insulation and saving energy.

Using **PCM 12** Energy audit of your home, children conduct an audit of energy usage in their homes.

Suggest that the children will need to ask a parent or guardian to help them conduct the energy audit in their homes. It may be necessary to send an information letter to the parents in advance asking for their cooperation with the energy audit.

Activity type: Recording, researching and communicating

Collate the results from the home audits. Record the results on an IWB or on a large poster. Discuss findings.

Questions to promote discussion

- 1 What actions that waste energy happen most frequently?
- 2 What are the most popular energy saving actions?
- 3 How do you think energy use could be reduced?
- 4 Do you think it is useful to gather information about how the whole class uses energy at home? Why?
- 5 What things about energy saving would you tell other classes?

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The children could use the following website to search for more energy saving tips
www.seai.ie/Power_of_One/Energy_Saving/Top_Tips/

The children could make posters in small groups on ways to save energy at home (include 5 top tips drawn from the results of the survey). These posters could be displayed throughout the school.

Extension

The following SEAI resources can be downloaded and used:

Energy quiz:

www.seai.ie/Schools/Primary_Schools/Resources_Available/Worksheets/Energy-Quiz-3rd-4th-classes.pdf

Worksheet, **Guzzler Goes Global** www.seai.ie/Schools/Primary_Schools/Resources_Available/Guzzler_Goes_Global.pdf

Lesson plan, **Wrap up keep warm**

www.seai.ie/Schools/Primary_Schools/Resources_Available/Lessons_Plan/Wrap_up_Keep_Warm_Lesson_Plan.pdf

