

ENERGY SAVING GAME



Instructions:

Option 1: Cut out the statements below into strips. Give each student a true or false statement on a strip, or if you have a large class break them up into pairs and give a strip to each pair. Ask them to divide up into a TRUE GROUP and a FALSE GROUP based on their answer to their specific question. When they are all in their groups get them to discuss each question with the others in the group and confirm every person is correct. Once they are sure they are where they should be go through the answers with them and get them to explain why they think the statements are true or false.

Option 2: Read the true and false statements out to the entire class. Have them divide the classroom into a TRUE SIDE and a FALSE SIDE. Get the students to stand on their respective sides of the room based on what they think the answer is. Once everyone has made their decision have a class discussion about why the statements are either true or false asking the students the reasoning behind their decisions.

Some questions from: everykilowattcounts.ca/kids

1. You should try and convince your parents to use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) or light emitting diodes (LEDs) rather than regular incandescent bulbs.

2. You should always turn the water off while brushing your teeth.

3. It's more important to turn off electronics like TVs and computers than the lights in your bedroom.

4. When it comes to heating up food, a microwave or toaster oven uses less energy than a regular oven.

5. A fan uses as much electricity as an air conditioner.

6. If you leave your computer plugged into the wall after you turn it off, it still uses up energy.

7. The best time of day to use appliances like washers, dryers, and dishwashers is in the middle of the day.

8. If a building has a revolving door, you should use it whenever you're heading inside or out.

9. Keeping a door or window open while the air conditioning is on isn't a big deal.

10. On sunny summer days, keep your drapes and blinds closed to save energy.

11. On sunny winter days, keep your drapes and blinds closed to save energy.

12. Renewable energy sources can be replenished in a short period of time.

13. Large changes in energy saving behaviors, such as switching all your appliances to Energy Star appliances, is the only way to help save energy.

14. Efficiency Nova Scotia helps households around the province save energy.

15. An “Energy Star” appliance or device uses more energy than a regular appliance or device.

16. It is okay to leave power bars on when you go home from school over the weekend.

17. Turning your heat down by 2 degrees and putting on a sweater instead will help save energy.

18. Using LED Christmas lights during the holidays uses more energy than using regular Christmas lights.

19. Making sure that your windows and doors don't have any drafts is important.

20. Being smart about energy doesn't include being smart about what we buy from the grocery store.

Answers:

- 1. True.** CFLs use 75% less electricity than standard incandescent bulbs, and they last up to ten times longer. LED's use 85% less energy and last up to 25 times longer. Make the switch!
- 2. True.** Keeping the water running while you brush your teeth can use up to 10 litres of water!
- 3. False.** Leaving on any of these items wastes electricity. Do your part and turn off your lights and electronics when you're finished using them.
- 4. True.** A toaster oven or microwave uses less energy than a regular oven.
- 5. False.** A fan uses about one-tenth the electricity that an air conditioner uses. That's why it's a good idea to use a fan instead of the AC whenever possible.
- 6. True.** Your computer is using up small amounts of electricity even when it's turned off. This is called "phantom load." Lots of other household items, like TVs, cell phones chargers, and stereos, slowly drain electricity all day, every day – whether they're turned on or not. To fight the phantoms, use a power bar with a timer. It'll shut off your devices at the end of the day, and help you be a ghost buster!
- 7. False.** These appliances should be used later in the evening. That way, they're not being used during peak electricity times.
- 8. True.** Believe it or not, about eight times as much warm air escapes when a swing door is opened when compared to a revolving door. When you help cut down on the warm air that's leaving a building, it means the heat doesn't have to be turned up higher. And that saves energy!
- 9. False.** All that cool air is heading outside and that's just a plain old waste of energy!
- 10. True.** This will keep the heat out, so your air conditioner doesn't have to work as hard.
- 11. False.** If you keep them open, the sun will warm your rooms. Plus, it'll bring in natural light, so you don't need to turn on a light. Here's an added tip: if you close the drapes and blinds at night, it'll help keep the heat in.

12. True. A renewable energy source such as solar, or wind can replenish its supply very quickly.

13. False. Even small changes in energy saving behaviours such as turning out the lights when they are not in use can help you save energy.

14. True. Efficiency Nova Scotia offers lots of different programs to help people all over the province save energy in their homes and at work.

15. False. Energy Star is the mark of a high-efficiency product. These appliances or devices meet very strict technical standards in terms of saving energy. They are some of the most energy saving products out there.

16. False. Power bars in classrooms should be turned off when you leave on Friday afternoon or else unnecessary energy will be used over the weekend.

17. True. Turning down your heat, even if it is only by 2 degrees will help you save energy.

18. False. Using LED Christmas lights during the holidays helps your family save energy because LEDs use less power than regular lights. You can even have your old Christmas lights exchanged during the Efficiency Nova Scotia holiday light exchange.

19. True. It is important to check your windows and doors for drafts. Drafts can let cold air in during the winter, and warm air during the summer causing you to either turn up your heat or turn up your air conditioning and waste energy.

20. False. It is important to think about where things we consume are coming from. If food is travelling long distances, it will use more energy than food that is locally grown.