

ENERGY NAVIGATOR ACTIVITY



The purpose of this activity is to teach students how to become an energy navigator in your school and home.

STEP ONE: DISCUSSION

Open the discussion with questions about energy and electricity. Use hints to elicit responses from kids.

Question: Why conserve energy?

Answer: Everyone uses energy, every day and all the time. It powers our homes, our schools and our businesses. It is important to understand when to save energy so we all create smart energy use habits.

Question: What is energy?

Answer: Energy is the ability to do work, it makes things move and do more.

Question: What is electricity?

Answer: It is a type of energy discovered over 100 years ago. Common ways to make electricity is converting other energy sources like coal, wind, water or solar

Question: What does electricity do? *What does it power?*

Answer: It allows us to use things like our iPods, cell phones and televisions.

Question: What is your favorite thing that uses electricity?

Answer: Open response

STEP TWO: VISIT DASHBOARD

Explain the dashboard to the students. The purpose of the dashboard is to let us know how much electricity, (oil/natural gas) and water we use on a daily bases.

Complete a review of all four screens:

Water usage: That is the same amount of water as you use taking a bath for a year/half a year

Electricity: In one day we use the same amount of electricity as X number of homes.

Oil: That is the same amount as driving to Halifax (or another destination) X times.

Weather: What happens to our electricity use when it is sunny? Cloudy? Cold?

STEP THREE: CHECKLIST

Now, we're going to become Energy Navigators for our school and help our school community understand how we can save electricity.

Provide children with the checklist and clings, and divide them into groups. The students will walk around the school using the checklist and identify areas where energy can be used more efficiently.

STEP FOUR: CLOSING DISCUSSION

Talk to students about their findings and solutions they can implement to help save energy

Questions:

What are we doing well? Where do we have energy waste? What can we do to reduce our energy?