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Energy Explorer

Fall 2020 e-newsletter

Today's new generation is "all ears" when it comes to using our energy resources responsibly. As you've probably already seen, they're ready to dive right in and get to work. They just need to know where to start.

As a teacher, you can give them the guidance they're looking for. And as your partner in sustainable energy solutions, we're ready to help. This e-newsletter offers energy tips that complement our **Energy Explorer** website and energy education booklets. Our website and booklets support New York, Rhode Island and Massachusetts ELA/reading, Science and Health standards, and are ideal for both classroom use and remote learning at home.

We hope you'll enjoy this issue and will share its energy-efficiency messages with your class, your colleagues, and parents or caregivers. For more energy education resources, please visit **ngridenergyworld.com**.

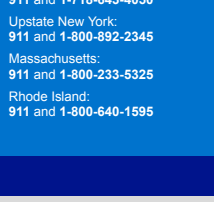
Energy vampires live among us

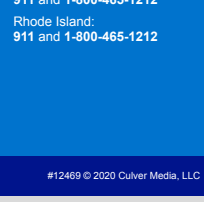
Energy vampires are appliances and devices that drain power even when they're not actually doing anything. These devices account for about five percent of your home's energy use, and even more for schools, which usually have lots of older equipment.

Five percent may not seem like much, but it adds up fast! Across all U.S. households this energy usage amounts to an estimated 65 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity each year. This extra electricity costs consumers more than 5.8 billion dollars, and sends more than 87 billion pounds of heat-trapping carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. (Yes, that's 87 billion.)

Energy Vampires can be elusive – but not for a seasoned Energy Vampire Hunter. Share these tips with your students to track them down:

- **Some of them are ancient.** Look around the house or classroom for older computer monitors, other electronics and device chargers for older phones and laptops. These guys are some of the biggest Energy Vampires of them all!
- **Let them sleep in peace.** Particularly with more recent models, putting your computer into "sleep" mode may use less power than shutting it down completely. Why? Because it takes more power to start up cold than it does to simply wake up.
- **They try to fool you with pretty pictures.** Speaking of computers, unless you have a really old desktop with an antique CRT monitor (laugh!), you don't really need a screensaver, which only keeps the computer busy (and gobbling up lots of energy) when you're not even around.
- **Be sensitive to the light.** You've seen it: No lights are on, but the room isn't quite dark. These days, almost every device includes a light or clock. Even those super-efficient LEDs are still sucking power. Of course, some do need to stay on all the time; your DVR, for example (you wouldn't want to miss the latest installment of your favorite vampire hunter series.) For these devices, especially, look for ENERGY STAR® ratings and recommendations.





How to slay energy vampires

It's easy (bwah-ha-ha-ha!). Just unplug them, and their vampiring days are over. They'll thank you for it, too. Powering down completely may help your devices last longer.

Got a whole nest of them? Plug them all into a power strip, and shut them all off at once. Even better, get one of those newer smart power strips with circuitry designed to monitor and control power to each electrical outlet in the strip to improve energy efficiency and prevent power wasting.

Explore all our educational resources

Order complimentary student booklets for grades K–9

Our booklets give students a break from screen time and feature home safety and energy use inspections, energy safety tips, activities and experiments to engage the whole household. When students share energy resources with their families, everyone benefits.

Companion teacher's guides make it easy to implement the lessons, with detailed background information, discussion points, follow-up activities and answer keys. And pre/post tests for each booklet make it easy to assess student learning. Order online today!

Our Energy Explorer website has a new look!

We've updated our **Energy Explorer** website at **ngridenergyworld.com** to make it even more engaging for students and easy for teachers to use. The "Teachers" section of the site includes many helpful resources:

- One-page student worksheets and answer keys help students review key content.
- Teacher tips help you explain all experiments.
- E-books have companion teacher's guides with background and discussion suggestions for each page, plus downloadable and reproducible pre/post tests.

Explore our world of energy education. Visit ngridenergyworld.com.

To report emergencies, call **911** and **National Grid** immediately.

Smell Gas. Act Fast.

811 Know what's below. 811 before you dig.

In case of gas emergencies:

Long Island and the Rockaways:
911 and **1-800-490-0045**

Metro New York:
911 and **1-718-643-4050**

Upstate New York:
911 and **1-800-892-2345**

Massachusetts:
911 and **1-800-233-5325**

Rhode Island:
911 and **1-800-640-1595**

In case of electric emergencies:

Upstate New York:
911 and **1-800-867-5222**

Massachusetts:
911 and **1-800-465-1212**

Rhode Island:
911 and **1-800-465-1212**