



KIDS CAN SAVE ENERGY **Too**



Learn how to save energy at home to help your family save for things like vacation, college expenses, a shopping trip, or buying the latest electronics.

Saving Energy. That's Smart.

ElectricIdeas.com/Home

**INDIANA
MICHIGAN
POWER**



KIDS CAN SAVE ENERGY Too

HERE ARE SOME WAYS PARENTS AND KIDS CAN WORK TOGETHER TO SAVE ENERGY AT HOME.

Introduce a few new energy-saving tips to kids each week and help them make these ideas part of their daily routines.

No one kid or parent can do all these at once.

- 1** Maintain the right thermostat temperature. Set the thermostat to 78°F in the summer and 68°F in the winter.
- 2** Install a programmable or smart thermostat, and make sure everyone in the household knows how to use it to save energy.
- 3** Use ceiling fans. Instead of turning down the thermostat when a room feels stuffy, use ceiling fans and standing fans to help circulate cool air. Make sure ceiling fans are rotating counter clockwise in the summer and clockwise in the winter.
- 4** Use exhaust fans in kitchens and bathrooms to quickly remove humid, steamy air. Make sure the fans are pushing hot air outside and not just into the attic. This can promote mold growth in insulation.
- 5** Take showers instead of baths, and try to limit your showers to five minutes.
- 6** Take lukewarm showers to reduce indoor humidity even further.
- 7** Close shades, drapes, and blinds during the day to block out unwanted heat from the sun in the summer. Open the blinds in the winter to help heat your home.
- 8** Open windows on cool summer evenings and turn off the A/C.
- 9** Use the microwave and other countertop appliances when you can instead of stoves and ovens.
- 10** Replace incandescent light bulbs with LED bulbs, which use less energy, give off less heat and last years longer.
- 11** Keep exterior doors closed as much as possible. If the kids have trouble remembering, try installing a little bell on the door to remind them.
- 12** Wash dishes and do laundry in the evenings when your home is cooler to reduce the workload on your A/C.

- 13** Only run your dishwasher and washing machine when you have a full load. Partial loads waste water and energy.
- 14** Wash clothes in cold water to reduce the load on your water heater.
- 15** Hang-dry clothes outside on sunny, breezy days.
- 16** Keep your dryer clean. Clean the lint filter after each dryer load to increase air circulation and improve dryer efficiency.
- 17** Turn your pool filter off when not in use, especially overnight.
- 18** Remind your kids to turn everything off. Post a list in each room of all the things that should be turned off before leaving.
- 19** Plug TVs and other electric devices into an advanced power strip. These 'smart' strips sense when devices are not being used and shut off power.

- 20** Plant shade trees around the house. Make a day of it with your kids.
- 21** Frequently clean HVAC vents, including the cold air return vents, to promote airflow through the system. Make this a part of your family's regular chores.
- 22** Keep the refrigerator closed. Avoid repeatedly and unnecessarily opening refrigerators and freezers.
- 23** Spend less time watching TV, playing video games and using the Internet and more time with energy-free activities like reading books, cycling or creating art. Remember to turn off your electronics when not in use!



*** SAVING ENERGY IS SMART!**
 Go to ElectricIdeas.com/Home for energy-saving products, rebates and discounts.

JOKES

What do you call a light bulb at midnight?

A night light

What is an energy provider's favorite dance?

The electric slide

Where do light bulbs go shopping?

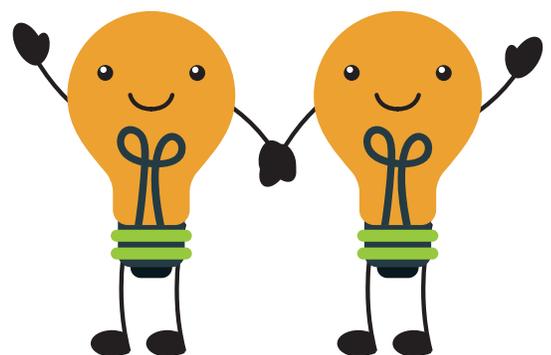
The outlet stores

Why did the electrical cords break up?

There was no spark between them

What did the baby light bulb say to the mommy light bulb?

"I love you watts and watts!"



Why did the lights go out?

Because they liked each other!



ENERGY SAVINGS WORD SEARCH

Did you know there are many ways you can help save energy in your home?
 Read the energy efficiency tips below and circle the bolded words in the puzzle.

O E S P W F W A T E R S Y E S
 A L L R S A E T D E I A L S R
 T E X K E J T O G H C E P X E
 L C O O G G Z E N X C N M N W
 B T B F M X R R R T B X Q K O
 G R I S M M R A R H C L I D H
 X I S Y K Y E O H X E V A F S
 I C B X X I N Y B C N A P J I
 A I G Y Z I H F H X C F T Y E
 U T U N C W U Y X Z O M B E S
 U Y Z S E M F P O R V N V T R
 R E F R I G E R A T O R H E Q
 E V J M Q S D M D F V G N Y L
 W M E O F P N T K W I H X Q I
 G N I H T O L C R L S S B R D

Turn off **lights** any time you leave a room.

Keep the **refrigerator** door closed to save energy.

Wash **clothing** in cold water to reduce the load on your **water heater**.

Unplug items that consume **electricity** even when they're not in use, like cell phone **chargers** and coffee makers. These are known as "phantom load" **electronics**.

Take **showers** instead of baths – showers require less **water** use.