

Champ's Tips for Saving Energy



Hi Kids! I want to talk to you about saving **energy** for many important reasons. First, conserving **energy** will help save valuable resources for our planet, I am sure you heard a lot about global warming and the greenhouse effect in school.

I went to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website so I could tell you more about it. I learned that the greenhouse effect is the rise in temperature that the Earth experiences because certain gases in the atmosphere trap **energy** from the sun. Without these gases, heat would escape back into space and the Earth's average temperature would be about 60°F colder. This would be way too cold for us, even me with all my fur! Because of how we warm our world, these friendly gases are referred to as greenhouse gases. Global warming means an increase in the Earth's temperature, which in turn causes changes in climate, like hotter summers, colder winters and more rainy days.



When scientists talk about the issue of climate change, they worry about global warming caused by all sorts of human activities like driving big cars. However, did you know that the average home releases twice as many greenhouse emissions into the air than the average car? So, here are some **energy** saving tips that you can practice at home to help save the planet and money on your parent's or guardian's gas and electric bills. Pretty soon you will be so good at it that you will not have to try to remember! Also, you can help teach your brothers, sisters and friends these good habits, too.

- Make sure you turn off the lights when you leave a room.



- Turn off the television, radio, computer or video games when you are not using them.



- Think about what you want for a snack and then get it instead of standing in front of the refrigerator or freezer for a long time with the door open.

- Tell the adults in your house to keep the thermostat a little lower in the winter to save heat and wear a warm sweater or sweatshirt.



- Ask your parents or adult guardian about switching the old light bulbs in your house or apartment to newer light bulbs called CFLs (Compact Fluorescent Bulbs). These "cool" bulbs can cut lighting costs by up to 75%, last 10 times longer and use 66% less **energy** than other light bulbs.



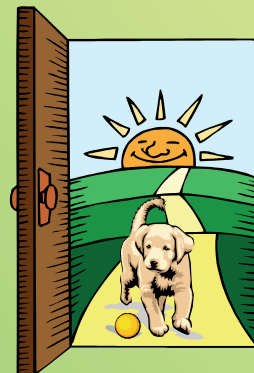
- Lastly, this tip is my favorite for saving **energy**. Do not leave the door open a long time when you are going in or out. This goes for letting your pets inside or outside too when the heat or air-conditioning is on. However, make sure that your dog's or cat's tail is all the way in or out before you close the door!

Thanks and good luck practicing your **energy** saving tips!

CHAMP



WOOF!



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