## **Keep the Energy Conversation Going!**

Your school is part of Smart Energy Academy—an educational initiative empowering students and families to help save 2 million kWh of energy across Australia.

Here's how to extend the learning:

#### In The Classroom:

- Display your Smart Energy Academy poster to keep energy awareness visible.
- Incorporate the digital lesson plans, games, and resources available at EnergyAcademy.com.au.
- Encourage students to complete the Home Energy Survey with their families and return it to school.

#### At Home:

- Students share what they've learned about saving energy and water with their families at home.
- Families can explore tips at EnergyAcademy.com.au to reduce household energy use.



# Easy things you and your students can do to save energy!

- 1. Turn off lights and devices when not in use.
- 2. Switch to LED lightbulbs.
- 3. Use natural light and airflow before switching on heating or cooling.
- 4. Take shorter showers.
- 5. Recycle and reuse wherever possible.



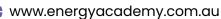
## For questions or support:



1300 652 470



contact@energyacademy.com.au





Save Energy. Save Resources. Save the Planet.





Use these hands-on classroom and take-home activities to deepen your students' understanding of energy efficiency, resources, and everyday actions that make a difference. These activities complement your Smart Energy Academy experience and support Science and Sustainability outcomes across the **Australian Curriculum.** 

## **Class Activity**

## **Home Activity**

## Who Turned Out the Lights?

### **Learning Goal:**

Students investigate how electrical circuits work, how energy is transferred and transformed, and how electricity affects their daily lives.

#### You'll Need:

- A classroom where lights and non-essential devices can be safely turned off (teacher to manage)
- · Circuit building kit: wires, bulb holders, small light bulbs
- AA batteries (one per student group)
- · Paper for students to write on

Need help assembling your kit? Visit EnergyAcademy.com.au/ teacher-toolkit for assistance.

#### **Procedure:**

- 1. Start by turning off the classroom lights and unplugging nonessential devices, creating a dark environment to help students experience a power outage.
- 2. Ask each student to write down their answers to the questions: "Why do we have no power?" and "What would you do if everything stopped working?"
- 3. Next, separate students into groups and guide each group to use the circuit kit and battery to build a simple circuit that lights a light bulb.
- 4. As they build, students label the parts of the circuit and note how energy is transferred from the battery, through the wires, to the light bulb.
- 5. After their circuit works, ask students to reflect: "What does electricity do?" and "What happens when devices are switched off or unplugged?"
- 6. End with a class discussion on key points:
  - What must happen for the bulb to light? (Wires connected to both ends of the battery, complete circuit)
  - What energy transfer is taking place? (Chemical > electrical > light/heat)
  - How does this relate to devices we use everyday?
  - How can we save energy at home or at school?

#### **Curriculum Links:**

Science (Years 3-6): Electrical energy, energy transfer, circuits and everyday uses.
General Capabilities: Critical & Creative Thinking, Sustainability, Personal & Social Capability.

### **One Hour Without Power**

### **Learning Goal:**

Explore how simple behaviour changes at home can reduce energy use and help families become more energy-smart.

#### You'll Need:

- A timer or phone stopwatch.
- A pencil and recording sheet (blank piece of paper).
- Help from a family member.

#### **Procedure:**

- 1. Choose a time in the afternoon or evening when your family is home together.
- 2. Set a timer for one hour. During this time, switch off:
  - Lights you don't need
  - TVs and gaming consoles
  - Computers and tablets
  - Chargers not in use
  - Any other non-essential appliances
- 3. Spend the hour doing low-energy activities such as reading, drawing, playing board games, or relaxing together.
- 4. After the hour, walk through your home and note what stayed switched off and what your family turned back on.
- 5. With your family, talk about which changes were easy, surprising, or challenging and what lifelong habits you could adopt to save energy every day.

#### **Extension:**

Estimate how much energy your household might save if you repeated this challenge once a week for a whole year.

#### **Curriculum Links:**

Science (Years 3–6): Energy use; sustainability General Capabilities: Critical & Creative Thinking, Personal & Social Capability, Sustainability