

Resource 1.6

Energy

Sustainable schools make the most out of free energy from the sun and are careful with energy that comes to the school from outside sources. Simple and practical things like the installation of blinds, and the planting of trees to shade windows can reduce a school's need to use energy to keep rooms cool or warm. You can also of course turn off lights, computers and other appliances when you are not using them.

Survey rooms

To reduce energy waste you must first find out where it is used. Your task is to identify the appliances that use energy in the school and record the length of time that each of the appliances is turned on.

Type of equipment	Number	Energy use estimate	Comments (e.g. any problems with the appliance. Did you have any problems finding the information? Note it here if you did.)

Using the information you have gathered create charts something like this.

Location	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Priority

Location	Use	Comments	Ideas for reducing energy use
Classroom 1	Lights	Lights left on during lunchtime	Elect a monitoring team Create 'Save it' stickers
	Computers	Left on all day	Use timers
Classroom 2	Air conditioner	Cool air escapes via gap under the door	Use a 'door snake'
	Lights	Not needed near window	Turn off lights

Set your school some **goals**.

Your goal might be to:

- Reduce energy consumption
- Increase energy efficiency
- Capture energy and store it.

Think about how this could be achieved?

You might consider:

- Use of plants for summer shade and winter sun
- Solar outdoor lights