

Power to People

SUMMARY

This musical EarthJams voyage will blast students on a trip from the sun to the earth. Understanding the steps of the energy cycle, they'll be amazed to learn the HUGE amount of energy humans use. Interactive songs and stage volunteers will vault kids and teachers to an informed and empowered platform, where they will know the steps to take to reduce their energy use and keep the earth a cool place to live.

PRE-PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES

1. Have students list all the ways they use electricity/fossil fuels at home and in school. Once they have finished brainstorming add things they may have missed, i.e., school bus, car, computers, microwaves, hot water heaters.
2. Have students investigate renewable and non-renewable electricity production. Then have a class discussion about all the options for producing electricity.
3. Energy challenge! Try to come up with 10 ways to reduce your energy use (as a class or individually).

POST PERFORMANC ACTIVITIES

1. Mr. Luna's Bright Idea (<http://www.thebrightidea.blogspot.com/>) - Join the campaign for a cooler future. Write student letters to Oprah to encourage her to support an initiative to give a free CFL to every kid in the USA!
2. Do a school CFLs fundraiser. Why sell candy bars when you can sell something that's good for the earth?
3. Write letters to your school principal encouraging the purchase of recycled paper, paper towels and other supplies. Encourage school recycling of paper, cans and bottles.
4. Get Maine Energy Education Program (MEEP) <http://www.mEEPnews.org/> to come do one of their fantastic programs in your school.
5. Take the Global Warming Challenge http://www.maineenvironment.org/gw_challenge.asp (for older students) as a class to find out how much carbon you can remove from the atmosphere by making simple lifestyle changes.

VOCABULARY

global warming
compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs)
fossil fuels

greenhouse gasses
ecological footprint carbon cycle

