

# **SAVE OR WASTE**

Adapted from the Florida Solar Energy Center

**Overview:** Students each hold a slip of paper with an energy wasting or energy saving behavior on it, then physically match themselves up with their opposite.

**Objectives:** Students will identify activities that waste energy and that save (conserve) energy.

**Time:** 1 class period

**Subjects:** Social Studies, Language Arts, Science

**Suggested Grade Level:** 2 – 4

**Materials:** “Save or Waste?” worksheet cut into strips, scissors, poster paper, markers or crayons

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## **BACKGROUND**

- There are many things we can do at home to stop wasting energy. For example, turning off lights before leaving a room.
- Corrective measures save energy.
- Conservation extends energy resources, saves money, and protects the environment. These measures are particularly important until scientists and engineers can have renewable energy sources on the scale to meet consumer needs.
- Recycling is another way to save energy.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Scramble the energy-related behavior statements from “Save or Waste?”
2. Distribute the statements among the students.
3. Challenge the students with “wasting behavior” strips to match with the students who have the “saving behavior” strips, and visa versa.
4. Once students have found partners with the correct strips, have each pair read their strips to the rest of the class.
5. Check for students’ understanding of how each corrective measure saves energy.

**ASSESSMENTS**

- Students follow directions.
- Students communicate effectively.
- Students draw conclusions from information.

**TEACHER ANALYSIS**

In order to promote further student analyzing, questioning, and investigating, the following teacher questions and comments may be useful at the conclusion of any activities/investigations. These questions can be used for small/large group discussions, science log/journal entries, or as writing prompts.

- How do you feel about your results? Are they valid?
- Did you conduct a “FAIR TEST”?
- What, if anything, would you change to make your results more valid?
- Did you control your variables?
- Did your results cause you to think of more questions to explore?

Adapted from *Getting Energized*, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Energy Programs Office, Golden, CO

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**SAVE OR WASTE?**

<b>It saves energy when you...</b>	<b>It wastes energy when you...</b>
Use a pan the size of the burner on the stove.	Put a little pan on a big burner on the stove.
Cook many items in oven at the same time.	Cook only one item in oven.
Put lid on pan when cooking. It keeps heat in.	Leave lid off pan when cooking.
Keep oven door closed. Use a clock to tell when food is ready.	Peek in oven while food is cooking.
Toast bread in toaster, not in oven.	Toast bread in oven, rather than in a toaster.
Stop cooking when food is tender.	Cook food longer than needed.
Run the washing machine with a full load.	Run the washing machine without many clothes in it.
Wash clothes in cold water when possible.	Wash clothes with more hot water than is needed.
Take a shower, instead of a bath.	Fill bath tub to the top.
Wash and rinse dishes in two pans.	Wash dishes under a running faucet.
Fix the leaking faucet.	Have a leaking faucet.
Iron clothes all at the same time.	Iron clothes one or two items at a time.
Turn off TV or radio when nobody is watching or listening.	The TV or radio plays to an empty room.
Turn off lights that you don't need.	Lights are on in empty room.
Close the curtains in the room you're cooling.	The sun shines into room you're trying to cool.
Open and close the refrigerator door quickly.	Keep the refrigerator door open longer than needed.
When it is cold, wear warm clothes in several layers.	When it is cold, wear thin clothes.
When it is cold, close outside doors quickly.	When it is cold, leave outside doors open longer than needed.
Caulk or weatherstrip to plug cracks around doors and windows.	Have cracks around outside doors and windows.
Have good insulation in outside walls and roof.	Have poor insulation in outside walls and roof.
Combine errands so that only one trip in the car is needed.	Take many trips in the car.