

10

Check for drafts in your classroom. Drafts indicate that windows, doors, and other areas may not be sealed well, and this can result in wasted energy. If you notice a draft, tell the maintenance staff at your school.

11

Look for obstructions to vents.

If there are any shelves, rugs, or other things blocking the vents in your classroom at school, then moving these obstructions can help to save energy. Ask for help moving the obstruction if needed.

Reducing Energy Use from Electronics

12

Shut down computers or use the “sleep” setting when not in use.

Turning off screens and monitors when you’re done using them.
Checking to see if computers are set to “sleep” when not in use.
Making sure that computers shut down completely at the end of the day.

13

Check to see if electronics and appliances are plugged into surge strips.

14

Find out if your school’s vending machines are energy efficient.

15

Go solar and generate energy

The investment in solar technology can be hefty, but rebates and grants are out there to make it a more affordable option than ever. On top of that, you are becoming a role model to the community by showcasing what conserving energy can do when used with solar energy technology.



15 Actions to save Energy at School

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Getting Others Involved

1

Organize a student energy patrol.

- If you are a student, you could start by inviting other students to join your group. You could also ask your teacher if they would spread the word and maybe even let you use the classroom for meetings.
- If you are a teacher, you could recruit students and help them by giving them ideas for how to save energy at school. One great way to get students organized is to start an official school club.

2

Post signs about conserving energy.

Either as an individual or as a team, create and post signs around your school. Try posting signs that remind people of specific things they can do to save energy and also some signs that raise awareness about saving energy in a more general way.

3

Set up a recycling station at your school.

Recycling is a great way to save energy because it reduces the need to produce new materials. If your school does not already have a recycling station, then ask your school principal if you can set one up .

4

Approach your school's administration about making big changes.

There's only so much you can do as an individual student or teacher, or even as an organized group. If you want your school to make major changes, such as purchasing energy-saving appliances for the classrooms, you'll need to get the administration involved.

5

Cutting Back on Energy Use from Lighting

Turn off the lights when rooms are not in use. Try organizing a student "light patrol" to check empty classrooms, labs, and other spaces to make sure the lights are off when they're not in use.

If you are a teacher, remind your students by saying, "Did you know that 90% of the energy that lightbulbs use is expended as heat? If we turn off lights when we don't need them, we can save energy and keep rooms cooler."

6

Use natural light when the sun is bright.

Talk to your school administrators about switching to fluorescent bulbs.

Replacing all of the incandescent bulbs in your school with compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) can translate to big energy savings for your school.

7

Saving Energy from Heating and Cooling

8

Close the door when you leave or enter a room.

Leaving doors wide open will result in a loss of heat or cool air, which can increase the need for energy to heat and cool that room. By closing the door to your classroom and other rooms, you can keep the heat and cold inside the room and save energy in the process.

9

Check the thermostats for potential energy saving adjustments. Setting the heat for 68 °F (20 °C) degrees in the colder months and 78 °F (26 °C) degrees for cooling in the warmer months can significantly reduce energy costs. Check the thermostat in your classroom to see if these settings have already been applied.