



# Eco-Schools USA at Home: Energy Conservation

## AUDIT AND ACTION PLAN

	BASELINE AUDIT (PRE-ACTION)	POST-ACTION AUDIT
1. Who is our home energy provider?		
2. How much electricity did we use last month according to our electricity bill?	_____ kWh	_____ kWh
3. What temperature do we have our thermostat set to?	_____ °F daytime _____ °F nighttime	_____ °F daytime _____ °F nighttime
4. Do we adjust the thermostat to a different temperature when we are not at home? (Yes/No/Sometimes)		
5. Use page 2 to draw a map of where your windows and doors to the outside are located. Mark on your map if any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows have cracks</li> <li>• Seals around windows or doors appear to be broken or missing</li> <li>• Door frames not tight enough to keep air from escaping</li> </ul>	___ # of cracked windows ___ # seals broken or missing ___ # door frames not tight	___ # of cracked windows ___ # seals broken or missing ___ # door frames not tight
6. Do we have ENERGY STAR appliances and devices? If yes, list them. <b>Note:</b> Energy Star products are independently certified to save energy, save money, and protect the climate. There is usually a label on larger appliances if they are certified Energy Star; if there is no label, it is likely not Energy Star certified. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>		
7. Use the table on page 3 to answer this question. How many potential energy vampires do we have at home? <b>Note:</b> Some appliances, such as your fridge, have to remain plugged in!	_____ # of energy vampires	_____ # of energy vampires



## MAPPING MY WINDOWS AND DOORS

Draw a map of your windows and exterior (outward) facing doors. Note if you see any of the following:

- Windows that have cracks
- Seals around windows or doors that appear to be broken or missing
- Door frames that are not tight enough to keep air from escaping

\_\_\_\_ total window cracks    \_\_\_\_ total seals broken or missing    \_\_\_\_ total door frames not tight enough



## ENERGY VAMPIRES

An energy vampire is a device that uses energy even when turned off. Record your observations right before going to bed. Repeat your observations to monitor progress!

Light/Device /Appliance	How many total in the house	Plugged into wall	Plugged into a power strip	On and in use	Sleep/ Standby/ low-power mode	Off-turned off but still plugged in and ready to use	Unplugged from wall or plugged into a power strip that is unplugged
<i>Example: Computer</i>	2	1	1				
<b>TOTALS</b>							



## MY ACTION PLAN-PAGE 1

**What is the problem, concern, or needed improvement, and why is it needed?** Consider how the problem you identified is affecting you, your family, and or the community.

*Example. I want to save energy because it helps the planet. Wasting electricity wastes money too. To save energy and money, I need to learn what I can do to reduce my home's energy use.*

**Your response.**

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**What three action(s) will I take?** Consider how to persuade yourself, your family, and or your friends to change their behavior and try new things.

*Example.*

- 1) *I will learn about the amount of energy I use through an audit. I will monitor the energy use in my home by looking for potential energy vampires, like lights, lamps, computers, fans, televisions, etc. and put up reminder signs.*
- 2) *I will research the best ways to conserve energy at home and create reminder signs I can post around my house.*
- 3) *I will learn about my energy provider and the dollar cost of my home's energy use and see how much we as a family can reduce this cost.*

**Your response.**

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## MY ACTION PLAN-PAGE 2-OPTIONAL

### How will I check our progress to see how we are doing?

Example.

- 1) I will display the results of energy use in my pre-action audit and or dollar cost, as seen through our energy bills.
- 2) I will create a graph, updated weekly, of the number of devices left on when not in use during the past week and post our weekly results on the refrigerator or some other visible location.
- 3) Share with my family over dinner. Once a week, share how we've been doing conserving energy.

Your response.

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### What will it look like, or what will happen if I solve the problem or make improvements?

Example.

Our family will regularly turn off electronics and lights when they are not in use. We might see our electricity bill go down.

Your response.

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### What materials will I need to solve the problem or make improvements?

Example.

- copies of our electricity bills
- a space to display the pre-action audit and changes over time
- craft materials or a computer and printer to create reminders
- time to meet over dinner to talk about our progress

Your response.

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