

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Goal 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. Energy is the main contributor to climate change, it produces around 60 percent of greenhouse gases.

Fact of the day

More than 40 percent of the world’s population, that’s 3 billion people, rely on polluting and unhealthy fuels for cooking. One in 7 people still lacks electricity, and most of them live in rural areas of the developing world.

Act now

Make a household plan for saving electricity

All day



Wasting electricity is a cost to us and to the planet. So, it is worth the effort to go around the house and figure how to save it. Start by grabbing your *Where Does All The Power Go* worksheet then tour every room in the house and record everything that is using electricity.

Next, opposite each one, try to figure a way to use it less. Lights can be switched off when not being used, kettles should only boil the amount of water that is needed, clothes driers might not need to run during dry weather when clothes could go out on the line instead (which you could help with!). How many other ideas can you come up with?

Now that you have figured the solutions, take action. Put a little sign on a door saying “Have you turned off the light?” Mark on your kettle how much water is needed for 2 cups of tea. Before going to bed you could check for devices left on standby and shut them off.

If you would like to try something a bit more advanced, why not try calculating the amount of energy your household uses in a day? Use the *Energy Usage* worksheet to record and calculate your electricity usage. Go online to get help with power your household appliances use.

Learn about alternative energy

1 hour



The majority of our electricity, and heat, is generated by burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil and peat. However, there are many more ways of doing this, without the pollution and greenhouse gasses. Go online to find out about the different ways of generating electricity from wind, waves and the sun. Find out how gas is being generated from farm waste through digesters and water is being heated directly by the sun. Some of these only work on a big scale, but how many of them can be added to your house, or shared in your community?

Make a mini wind turbine

1 hour



Try making your own mini wind turbine from a plastic bottle to see how wind energy could work. Tweak your design to work even in light wind.

Could you cut down car journeys?

1 hour



It might not feel like it but parents often think that they should have a taxi sign on the car roof as they drive their kids around so much! Make a plan for some journey’s where you could walk or cycle, or maybe plan to share lifts with friends.

What to do next

Once finished your own action, share it on social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter). Tag **@Scoutingireland** and using the hashtags **#scoutsforsdgs #scoutsie #17days17sdgs**.

This will allow scouts not only from Ireland, but all over the world, to see your actions and use that as inspiration to go and make a positive impact in their communities!

