

Countryways Win a Torch Competition 1

Here are your Bright Ideas!

Jeremy O'shannessy from Shepparton VIC says, One way we could save energy around our home is to watch less TV and play outside more.

Gabby O'shannessy from Shepparton VIC says, 1. You could hang your clothes out on the clothes line instead of using a dryer. 2. You could wash your dishes in the sink and dry them with a tea towel instead of using a dishwasher.

Jeremy Fitzgeralds aged 13 from Lara VIC says, One way of saving energy is to turn off lights, televisions and computers or anything else that isn't being used. Another way is to use a hot water bottle instead of an electric blanket because instead of wasting electricity you are using hot water. They are cheap too but are easy to maintain too.

Emily Collins aged 7 from Ardeer VIC says, I try not to use my bedroom light for too long or leave my tv going. We don't use a dryer or dishwasher so we save a lot of energy. Plus I ride my bike to school every day plus do after school activities and playing with my friends. We live near a creek so the environment is a happy place for me to go for a walk when i need fresh air.

Amy Henderson aged 11 from Benalla VIC says, I have put a sign in my bedroom doorway to remind me that when I go out of my room to turn off the light. I put a blanket on me when sitting and watching TV at night when I am cold instead of turning up the heater.

Toby Pollock aged 12 from Eltham VIC says, My idea is instead of leaving your TVs, computers, radios or stereos on standby, turn them off at the power point. Another one is if you are lying on a couch and feeling cold don't turn the heater on just get a blanket.

Madison Harris aged 10 from Bayles VIC says, My bright idea is for us to only watch the TV when our favourite show is on and when it finishes, we turn it straight off and do other family activities. Too many people leave the TV on even when they are not watching it. When we are not watching it, we turn it off at the power point instead of the remote. Because if you turn it off with the remote, the TV stays on standby and still uses electricity.

James Harris aged 8 from Bayles VIC says, Hi, my family has a good idea to save energy when we have showers. First, we have the door open and windows open so we don't need a light or fan on. Then to save the water and electricity to heat up the hot water, we yell out to the next person who gets straight in without having to turn off the water. It does not waste water while the next person tires to re-adjust the taps to get the water temperature right.

Brent Trimble aged 2 from Cranbourne VIC says, We save energy in my room by changing the lights to energy saving globes. During the day we open the blinds to let the light in and when it gets cold we close them to keep the heat in. Mummy also used the back of the CE envelope to save making more paper. I got mummy to write this letter as I cannot write yet.

Caitlyn Cranson-Bassett aged 7 from Broadmeadows VIC says, Hi my name is Caitlyn Cranson-Bassett and i save energy by leaving my fishtank light on and not turning on my lamp when I go to bed. Mum turns the fish tank light off when she goes to bed. She said the fish tank light takes only a little bit of electricity. I would like to win the torch because I can use it when I go on camp with the girl guides in 15 days time.

Kate Alday aged 3 from Sea Lake VIC says, I save energy because when ABC kids has finished on the TV I get mum to turn the TV off at the wall.

Ella Cicala aged 7 from Archies Creek VIC says, When we wake up the first thing we do is open our blinds instead of turning the lights on, mum says its free light.

Aidan Maddock aged 5 from Glenroy NSW says, Buy more things from the shops at once so we do not have to drive there so often.

Tasman Porter aged 3 from Thornton VIC says, I'm the first one up in our house to watch the kid's shows on TV, so I turn the TV on at TV switch instead of using the remote control.

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Zoe Ellins aged 6 from Narre Warren South VIC says, If we have short showers and put buckets in our shower we can save water and also help our plants grow.

Brodie Bingham aged 4 from Echuca VIC says, Instead of waiting for the hot water to come through in the morning when I want to wash my face and hands, my mum wets a facewisher with cold water and puts it in the microwave for a few seconds to warm it up.

Leigh Rice aged 12 from Gladysdale VIC says, My energy saving tip is when you're cooking a cake or biscuits, double the recipe to make better use of your oven. You can cook 2 cakes at the same time. You can freeze most cakes.

L. Cusack from Normanhurst NSW says, To save energy don't put small pots on a big ring on the stove and turn off your boiled eggs the time they first start boiling and they will cook in the heat in the pot.

Erin Biddle aged 12 from Tamworth NSW says, Turn standby off, turn lights off, open windows instead of turning on aircon.

Sarah Heywood aged 2 from Mildura VIC says, I save energy by not having a night light on.

Hieu Nguyen from Noble Park VIC says, make sure all appliances that are not in use are switched off at the main powerpoint switch.

Jordyn and Colby Elford aged 4 and 2 from Manangatang VIC say, 1. Walk or ride our bikes to the bus stop instead of using the car. 2. We share a bedroom so we don't have to heat/cool two. 3. When mum's not looking we pee on the lawn instead of using the toilet. 4. If we had Dynamo torchs we would use them and save batteries. 5. We help mum use the clothes line instead of the dryer. 6. We make sure mum pulls food out of the freezer before she needs to use it, so it can defrost naturally instead of in the microwave. 7. We love having picnics outside in the nature – out there we don't use any energy apart from ours. 8. We play in our cubby house for ages everyday so if we need power we just pretend that our toy oven, vacuum cleaner etc work.

Jasmine McDonough aged 12 from Bundoora VIC says, My bright idea is to turn lights off whenever you leave the room to save power.

Celine and Chloe Chawner aged 8 and 4 from Eleebana NSW say, We use rechargeable batteries in our toys. We use energy saver lights. We take part in Earth Hour regularly. We try to switch off at the power point when not using an item. We use a timer for some lights or electrical items.

Amanda Blake aged 15 from Tuggerah NSW says, Instead of using a dryer to dry your clothes, hang your wet clothing on coat hangers and then hang the coat hangers on the clothes line to dry. By hanging the clothes on the coat hangers, you can fit twice as many clothes on the line at once.

Annaka Danks from Ballina NSW says, So many people watch TV and eat dinner using up heaps of power. It would save a lot to sit together and eat dinner with a candle for light and you get to talk to each other about your day. It would work if everyone did it.

Jackson and Amahli Walsh from Port Macquarie NSW say, I turn the light off when I don't use it and the TV off when I am not watching it.

Rob Merrett aged 9 from Bright VIC says, Use a low flow shower head to reduce the use of water. Use the sun instead of powered light. When it is hot at night open window instead of using a fan if you do not have window get an air vent. Don't leave paper in the washing machine or you will have wet paper in your clothes and you will have to wash them again or you shall use more power. Do not use interactive white boards use a blackboard instead. Don't use pools go down to the river and have a swim reduce electricity. Play outside not games on your pc. Get solar panels on your house for solar hot water. When you go to the loo if someone else wants to go to the loo do not flush the loo so the other person can go to the loo to save energy.

Hannah Merrett aged 9 from Bright VIC says, If you open your window and put on the air-conditioner it wastes energy so turn off the air-conditioner and leave the window open. When you are reading a book and turn on the light use the sun not the light. When you are on the computer playing games and it is sunny play outside. Use a broom not a vacuum cleaner. If you are in the car and you put on the heater on turn off the heater and put a jumper.

Brandon Lee Connor aged 12 from Clayton VIC says, make sure all appliances that are not in use are switched off at the main powerpoint switch.

Gerrard Delaney aged 11 from Mortlake VIC says, 1. Battery clock. 2. Big loads of washing. 3. Turning appliances off at wall. 4. Quick showers. 5. Turning off TV when not watching. 6. Close doors to keep heat in. 7. Energy saving light bulbs. 8. Close curtains or blinds when you are heating, especially at night 9. Don't fill kettle to the top. 10. Seal doors and windows against drafts.

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