

Home Energy Audit

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Dear Families,

Students at Bellows Spring will be participating in many activities to celebrate Energy Week during the week of March 22 – 26. We encourage you to help make a difference at home by conducting an energy audit as a family. After completing the audit, return the bottom slip. All returned slips will be placed into a drawing to win prizes. Let's show how green BSES can be!



Just check each item as you go through your home. Make sure you have a parent help you.

- Check each sink and toilet in your home for leaks. Leaky ones waste water. Leaky hot water faucets waste both water and energy. If you find a leak, let an adult know. They are usually pretty easy and inexpensive to fix.
- Check the temperature settings on your home's thermostat. In the winter, they should be kept as low, in the 68° to 70°F range. In summer, they should be kept as high as is comfortable, in the 78° to 80°F range.
- Are there lights and televisions left on in rooms when nobody is around? Lights and appliances like radios and televisions use electricity. So turn them off when you leave a room or are not using them.
- Check the seal on your refrigerator door by closing the door on a slip of paper. Tug gently on the paper and see if it is held snugly in place by the door seal. If it slips right out, the door seal is not doing its job of keeping the cool air inside and the hot air out.
- If your home has a fireplace, when there is no fire burning, check to see if the flue is closed. An open flue lets your indoor air escape up the chimney.
- Does your home have a ventilation fan in the bathroom? If yes, is it turned on whenever someone takes a bath or shower? This takes away the moist air that can damage your home. And is it kept off at other times?
- Do an inventory of light bulbs in you home. As you count them, note if they are of the type where a compact fluorescent could be used instead. Compact fluorescents don't use as much energy as regular light bulbs.
- If you home has ceiling fans to keep people cool, are they turned off when there is no one in the room? Ceiling fans don't cool the room, they just make people feel cool as the air blows over their skin, so they should be off when no one is around.

_____ 's family conducted a home energy audit for Energy Week.
(student name)

Parent Signature