

It's All In The Timing

Grade

3

Topic: Energy
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Duration: 30 minutes

Student will investigate a number of devices to determine how timers can reduce the energy used at home.

Curriculum Expectations

- 3s66: Recognize devices that are controlled automatically, at a distance, or by hand
- 3e51: Listen to discussions and ask questions to clarify meaning
- 3e56: Create a variety of simple media works
- 3e63: Contribute ideas appropriate to the topic in group discussion and listen to the ideas of others

Background Information

Timer devices are used to assist people in turning on and off appliances automatically so they don't have to remember or keep an eye on the clock.

Accountability

Teachers and students will be aware of timers in the school and home that are used to control energy-using devices. Students become more aware of what needs to happen to save energy by controlling devices with timers.

Teacher Notes

1. Materials: some automatic timers, timers and some plug-in appliances to use in the class.
2. Ask what makes devices work (energy) and how we control them (directly, automatically or remotely).
3. Brainstorm a number of devices that could be set up in the home to control energy that could be used to save energy (timers on lights, furnaces, etc.).
4. Each group should present its findings to the class.

Home Extension

At home have student check to see if there are any timers being used in their house. They could brainstorm with parents if there are any places in the house where a timer would be good to use.

Lesson comments

What did your students find?

Who did they tell?

What creative solutions did they come up with?