

Don't miss the **Wild About Poetry** contest winners on page 2!

February 15, 2010



# WATTS GOING DOWN

## “SHINE LIKE AN ENERGY STAR®” VIDEO CONTEST ANNOUNCED

*Thank you to our Program Sponsors!*

### Lights, Camera, Action...

Lights for Learning is happy to announce it's second annual video contest! Gather your friends and family, or go solo and show us how you “Shine Like an Energy Star”.

You could be the grand prize winner of a MacBook, ITouch, and Docking Station Package for your imaginative and creative video. Check out last years contest winners on our website at [www.lights4learning.org](http://www.lights4learning.org)!

A complete list of rules, prizes, and prize equivalents (for group submissions) are available on the website.

Have fun, get crazy, and show us how you shine!

**HOW DO YOU SHINE LIKE AN ENERGY STAR? CONTEST**

Learn how your school can benefit from the Lights for Learning Program at [lights4learning.org](http://lights4learning.org)

Open to all students grades K-12 throughout Illinois!

**Who can compete:** You, your friends, your classroom or school.

**How do I submit:** Upload your video to Youtube and “Send Video” to user name “lights4learning” with your name, participants, and contact information.

**Submit Video by:** 11:59 p.m. April 16, 2010

**What kind of video:** Create a 30 to 60 second live music video, commercial or skit showing how you save energy and shine like an ENERGY STAR! Get creative, get goofy, get your energy saving message across to the world!

**Prizes:**  
**Grand Prize:** Mac Book, ITouch & Docking Station  
**2nd Prize:** Nintendo Wii  
**3rd Prize:** ITouch

Complete list of contest rules and prize equivalents are on: [www.lights4learning.org](http://www.lights4learning.org)

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*Lights for Learning is administered by:*



Environmental journalist Lori Bongiorno shares green-living tips and answers the question “*Is it worth it?*”

1. Activating the power-save function on your computer is an easy way to save up to \$90 a year off your utility bills. Low power mode also helps equipment run cooler so it lasts longer.

## IS IT WORTH IT?

2. Reduce the brightness of your television. Select the “home” mode because the “retail” or “vivid” mode (the default setting for most TVs) uses up to 25% more power. Use the energy- and power-savings modes on your TV and other appliances you’ll save \$40 a yr.

3. Video game consoles, like Sony Play Station 3 and Microsoft Xbox 360,

use nearly the same amount of power when they are turned on and left idle as they do when you are actively playing a game or movie. Save \$100.00 a year by remembering to turn off your game system whenever you are not using it. Now its your turn to answer the question “*Is it worth it?*”

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THE WORLD ONE  
BULB AT A TIME.



## Poetry Contest Winners Announced

Congratulations to Emily Scorzo of Clinton Rosette Middle School, DeKalb, Illinois. Emily has been chosen as the First Prize winner of the Lights for Learning *Wild About Poetry* contest. Her winning entry, *Medical Crisis*, was selected based on her knowledge and spirit of environmental conservation and the impact humans have on their surroundings.

Two second prize winners have been selected. Sean McElligott of St. Michael School, Orland Park and Maureen Hagerty of St. John the Baptist School in Winfield, IL. The poems of both Sean and Maureen echo the sentiments of American writer and environmentalist Daniel Quinn...

"If five billion people change their minds and decide to live their daily lives with the earth's welfare in mind, then earth, humanity, and all the continuum of life will gain a new lease on life."

Congratulations again to our winners and many thanks to everyone who submitted their heartfelt poems!

### *Medical Crisis*

*This a medical crisis  
I saw the Earth sitting in the emer-  
gency room  
It had a high fever  
It was complaining about something  
called 'global warming'  
I glanced at him one more time  
He was sweating  
I hoped the nurse would come to him  
soon  
Before he got seriously ill  
Whoever caused this Medical Crisis is  
in big trouble  
The nurse gave him pills  
This is what it said:  
Recycle  
Reuse  
Conserve  
Reduce  
I hope the Earth gets better soon  
Because I want it to live*

*Emily Scorzo  
Clinton Rosette MS, DeKalb*

*Dark! I shut off the lights  
No humming or buzzing, it's peaceful at  
night  
This one small act, so little, so small  
Could make a huge difference, if we'd  
answer the call  
Clear blue skies, crystal clear water  
Would save our Earth, so it's their for  
our daughters  
Our planet's residents would stay so  
diverse  
And our smart changes would reverse  
the global warming curse  
A small first step is perfectly fine  
It doesn't have to be stopping the drilling  
of a coal mine  
Every single act will make one problem  
solved  
Even if it's just switching a light bulb  
If everyone pitched in, our future would  
be greener  
No more overflowing landfills, but im-  
proving demeanors  
So I'm asking you all, to do your very  
best  
Each act is appreciated and you'll pass  
the Earth Day test*

*Maureen Hagerty  
St. John the Baptist, Winfield*

*You go outside and what do you see  
A beautiful place held down by gravity  
This place is only a one of a kind  
So love her now and keep an open mind  
When someone throws a wrapper on the  
ground  
They think 'hey, well, they're all around'  
But just one wrapper can cause the fall  
of one magnificent waterfall  
We must stop the madness, there's no  
time to wait  
Mother Earth's been here a trillion years  
and never once has she ever complained  
Now she's crying out in a desperate plea  
Oh please Oh please help me  
It's our job as people to answer this call  
So take my hand  
Just you and me  
One will lead to two or three  
Then we'll stand together and break  
down this wall  
The possibilities are endless while we're  
hand in hand  
So come together and let's make our  
stand*

*Sean McElligott  
St. Michael School, Orland Park*