

January 15, 2010



WATTS GOING DOWN

UP FOR A CHALLENGE?

*Thank you
to our
Program
Sponsors!*



*Lights for Learning
is administered by:*



Since September, 2009, 49 different schools and organizations have participated in the Lights for Learning fundraiser. Together, they have raised \$24,874.92 in proceeds through the sale of 11,006 energy saving compact fluorescent light bulbs, LED light strands, and other energy saving products.

Top selling schools have been tabulated and Lights for Learning would like to offer other schools and organizations a challenge. Any school or organization that can

Lights for Learning is proud to sponsor it's first poetry contest, *The Language of Conservation*. Students are encouraged to express their creativity and imagination through poetry. Poems require an association between the environment, conservation and or preservation and a connection to the impact

beat the total number of energy saving products will receive free movie tickets and a pizza party for all fundraiser participants. The school with the second highest total will receive a free pizza and ice cream party for all fundraiser participants. Challenge a top selling school or your local rival school in this fun, energy saving, and money making fundraiser!



Current top three schools:
First Place:
St. Michael School in Orland Park has sold 1,053 energy saving products with proceeds totaling \$2,093.55.
Second Place:
Prairie du Rocher Elementary School in Prairie du Rocher has raised \$1,632.15 in proceeds through the sale of 965 energy efficient products.
Third Place:
Bartlett HS in Bartlett, IL has sold 630 energy saving products. Their sale has generated \$1,468.35 in proceeds for the school.

Lights for Learning Sponsors Poetry Contest

humans have on their surroundings. All forms of poetry will be accepted.

The winning poem will be featured in an upcoming Watts Going Down newsletter and published in the Lights for Learning educators toolkit. Toolkits are sent to educators and fundraiser coordinators across the state.

In addition, the winning poet or poetess will receive a Sony Reader Touch Edition™ and a 1 year Family Plus pass to the Brookfield Zoo. Second place will be awarded a \$150.00 book store gift card and a 1 year Family Plus Pass to Brookfield Zoo. Submissions due no later than March 2, 2010.

Lights for Learning

c/o APT
1242 Main Street
4th Floor
Springfield, MA 01103

Phone: 877.693.7827
Fax: 413.734.3475
E-mail: www.lights4learning.org

KIDS CHANGING
THE WORLD ONE
BULB AT A TIME.



LIGHTS FOR LEARNING™
POETRY CONTEST

THE LANGUAGE OF
CONSERVATION

DEADLINE: February 15, 2010

Contest Specifications:
Demonstrate your knowledge and spirit of environmental conservation through poetry. Celebrate the natural world with your creativity and imagination by making others aware of the impact humans have on their surroundings. All styles of poetry accepted.
Complete list of contest rules available on www.lights4learning.org

PRIZES
1st Prize
Sony Reader Touch Edition™ & Brookfield Zoo 1 Year Family Plus Pass
2nd Prize
\$150.00 Book Store Gift Card & Brookfield Zoo 1 Year Family Plus Pass

"Poetry calls into questions what it means to be human; it expands the imagination of a culture and suggests ways to become more humane and deeply engaged with the world."
Sandra Alcosser, Poet-in-residence

EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO: JACKIEP@APPLIEDPROACTIVE.COM

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Save Money & Energy in 2010

1. Seal Leaks: Find leaks and cracks in your home by holding an incense stick up to all possible places where air might be sneaking in. Install weatherstripping on windows and doors and insulate your attic, ceilings, and external walls.
2. Thermostat Tweaks: Adjust your thermostat so that your system is working as efficiently as possible. Adjusting your air conditioner just five degrees higher can save up to 20% on cooling costs. During the winter turn the thermostat down at night, add an extra blanket, and put on socks for a cozy nights sleep!
3. Use a Fan: When it's warmer out or if you just need a little air

circulation, use a fan: ceiling or plug in and open the windows Fans don't use much energy and you can stay cool without running the air conditioner and get a little fresh air at the same time.

4. Adjust the Water Heater: Turn it down! Keep you water heater set a 120 degrees for maximum efficiency. 13% of home energy costs are consumed by hot water heating.
5. Turn it Off: Unplug appliances, TVs, computers, battery chargers, etc. when not it use. Invest in an energy saving **Smart Strip Power Strip**. Smart Strips actually 'sense' the flow of electrical current through the strip's control outlet. The Smart Strip will turn off selected equipment when not in use. (*Smart Strip Power Strips are available through the Lights for Learning Program!*)
6. CLFs: Replace inside and outside lights with compact fluorescent bulbs

And save 75% off lighting costs. Install dimmer switches with dimmable CLFs, too. Dimming the lights creates mood lighting and uses less energy! (*Regular and dimmable CFLs are available through Lights for Learning, too!*)

7. Cold Wash and Line Dry: Wash your clothes and linens in cold water with eco-friendly detergent. Line dry rather than using the dryer all the time. When using the dryer, be sure both the lint trap and the outside vent are clean.
8. Fill the Dishwasher: Use your dishwasher to its maximum capacity. Make a practice of only running the dishwasher when it is completely full.

To really see the benefits of these simple changes, take a look at your utility bills from 2009 and compare them to you bills in 2010 after you have made the adjustments!