Activity: Energy Audit

Background:
Have students conduct a simple home energy audit using the form provided. This will get them focused on a variety of simple ways they can start conserving energy at home. You can adapt this form to conduct a school audit, too.

Point Value:
8 points

Key Themes:
Energy Conservation

Procedure:
1. Send your students home with this easy energy audit. Encourage them to complete the audit with their family, so everyone can see the results.
2. Discuss the question “What changes can I make at home to use less energy and water?” Create a list of the reasons on the board and have students copy them on the provided worksheet.
3. Extension: Modify this audit to complete in your classroom/school.
4. Students and their parents can learn more about making their homes more energy efficient by visiting www.energy.gov/public-services/homes

Materials:
Provided by Museum:
• Energy Audit Worksheet
HOME ENERGY AUDIT

WATER USE

How many minutes do you spend in the shower?  ___________ minutes

Do you leave the faucet on while you brush your teeth?  YES  NO

How many faucets are there in your house?  ___________ faucets
   How many faucets are leaky?  ___________ faucets

How many toilets in your house?  ___________ toilets
   Do any of the toilets run?  YES  NO

How long is the clothes washer cycle?  ___________ minutes

How long is the dishwasher cycle?  ___________ minutes

Do you use a sprinkler to water the lawn?  YES  NO
   How often per week?  ___________ hours/week

ENERGY USE & ENERGY LOSS

Count the number of:
   Incandescent Lights Bulbs  ___________ bulbs
   CFL Bulbs  ___________ bulbs

How many windows are in your house?  ___________ windows
   How many windows have cracks in them?  ___________ windows
   How many windows don’t close completely?  ___________ windows

Do you leave the television on when you leave the room?  YES  NO

How many things are plugged in around your house?  ___________ things
   How many of these things are currently being used?  ___________ things

Does your house have solar panels on the roof?  YES  NO
What changes can I make at home to use less energy and water?