

News That Will Blow You Away!



Eine Windinge Sache (German)

Renewable Energy

So what's so great about renewable energy? Right now we use a lot of coal and oil for energy, but we can't reuse these fuels. Once they're gone they're gone. Burning these fuels causes major pollution problems and increases global warming. Renewable energy is energy that won't go away and will always be there to use again and again. The wind, the sun and even ocean waves are examples of clean renewable energy. We are now finding ways to make lots of power from clean renewable energy, so we will have a safer, healthier planet. Let's learn more about wind power.

Wind Power

Hundreds of years ago, it was wind that brought Columbus to North America. It was wind that powered windmills to pump up water for farms all over the world. Today, energy experts are taking wind power seriously. Instead of looking for fuel underground, they're looking up in the sky. They're making "wind maps" of the world and building "wind farms" (areas with lots of wind) where hundreds of wind machines whirl away making electricity. They discovered that wind power doesn't create pollution and it works as well as coal and oil. And besides that, it's "cool." Our fans at home use electricity to make wind. Wind is turned into electricity at wind farms by using very tall towers with huge blades that rotate. As the blades, called rotors, catch the wind and spin, the energy they create is sent to a generator that produces electricity. For more info go to: www.alliantenergykids.com

Wind Work That's a Breeze!!

Send letters or drawings to your local power company and government leaders and tell them you're a "fan" of wind power.

Is it windy enough for wind power where you live? Call your local weather service and ask for the average annual daily wind speed in your area. If the wind is over 14 mph, it's windy enough to make electric power.

Save energy! Hang your wet clothes on the line and let the wind do the drying.

For fun, make a wind chime with stuff like juice can lids to remind you that "the wind is passing by".

Learn more about wind power. Ask for help at your library or check out these classroom activities.

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/education/lessonplans>

