Energy Efficiency Student Contest

Educator Pamphlet
Spring 2017
Kindergarten through Grade 12

Energize CONNECTICUT
Empowering you to make smart energy choices
What is eesmarts?

**eesmarts** is an energy efficiency and clean energy learning initiative, funded by the Energy Efficiency Fund. The vision of **eesmarts** is to develop an energy-efficient ethic among all school-aged students in Connecticut, encouraging them to incorporate energy-efficient practices and behaviors into their lives at home and at school.

**eesmarts** lessons and materials support the Connecticut State Science Standards and are aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Common Core English/Language Arts.

**Eligibility**

The contest is open to all Connecticut students in kindergarten through grade 12. Teachers who have used and evaluated the **eesmarts** lesson materials are especially encouraged to have their students participate, though this is not a requirement.

**Judging**

Judges will consider factual and scientific accuracy, originality, clarity of thought, readability, persuasiveness, creativity and appearance. Entries depicting violence or content of an inappropriate nature will be disqualified.

**Length & Format**

- **Kindergarten through Grade 2**
  Posters must range between 11” x 17” and 18” x 24” in size. They may be created in any medium (crayons, watercolors, markers, pastels, etc.).

- **Grades 3 through 8**
  Word limits for written entries in each grade level are specified in the grade level prompt. Entries must be typed.

- **Grades 9 through 11**
  All project plans must be between 4 and 6 pages in length – you can include graphs, diagrams, budget tables and references only if they support your plan. Entries must be typed.

- **Grade 12**
  Video formats must be compatible with Windows Media Player™.

  *Entries for grades K-2 should be submitted through the mail.*
  *Entries for grades 3 through 12 must be submitted online at eesmarts.com/contest.*
  *Entries must be submitted as a Word document or a PDF.*

**Deadline**

Entries and registration forms must be postmarked or submitted online no later than Friday, April 28, 2017, 11:59 p.m.
Where to send entries

Mail entries to: **eeSmarts Contest**  
c/o Capitol Region Education Council  
Attention: Gio Koch  
111 Charter Oak Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Submit entries for grades 3-12 online at [eesmarts.com/contest](http://eesmarts.com/contest)

Note: Eversource and UI reserve the right to reproduce any entry, in whole or in part, or display entries as a public exhibit. Students are not eligible if a parent or guardian serves as a judge for the contest.

Timeline

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>April 28, 2017</td>
<td>Entries must be postmarked, or submitted online by this date</td>
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| May 19, 2017  | Finalists will be notified  
               (Ceremony to be announced at a later date) |

Prizes for Kindergarten through Grade 12 (at each grade level)

- **First Prize:** $200 Amazon gift card
- **Second Prize:** $100 Amazon gift card
- **Third Prize:** $50 Amazon gift card

Return Policy

Entries will not be returned.

Labeling

Each entry should have the following information typed or neatly printed at the top, left-hand corner of each page (or on the back of poster entries for Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2).

- **Student Name**  
- **School**  
- **Educator’s Name**  
- **School Telephone**  
- **Grade**  
- **Town/City**  
- **Educator’s Email Address**

Entries without correct labeling will NOT be considered. For grades K-2 please send a completed contest registration form (the last page of this pamphlet) with each set of entries. You may use one registration form for multiple classes, but please use a second form to separate entries from different grades. For grades 3-12 please complete the online submission form. Be sure to include the information requested above on each entry.
KINDERGARTEN, GRADE 1 & GRADE 2 – Saving Energy Poster Contest

Design a poster that shows how you can save energy around the house, or at school. Be creative and show your smarts in saving energy (e.g., turning off lights, using ENERGY STAR® appliances and LED lights, unplugging electronics when they are not in use, or Wait til 8: www.energizect.com/waittil8).

GRADE 3 – Narrative

Write a fictional narrative (250 words or less) about recycling; think reduce, reuse, recycle. The problem in your narrative should be focused on the Earth’s limited resources and the importance of recycling in order to conserve those limited resources.

GRADE 4 – News Article

Write a news article (250 words or less) for your local paper covering the importance of saving energy. Be sure to cover how readers can save energy in their own homes. Your article should include facts about energy, energy efficiency and energy conservation. Remember to use a strong lead and supporting detail for your article.

GRADE 5 – Book Review

Write a book review (250 words or less) for Just a Dream by Chris Van Allsburg that includes:

- What is the book about?
- What is the book’s theme or message?
- Your understanding and opinion about the book.
- How does this book help children to understand the importance of conserving our natural resources and conserving energy?

Note: If your school library does not have a copy of this book, teachers, please email bmarshal@cerc.org to receive one.

GRADE 6 – Persuasive Essay

The United States Constitution is the highest law in the U.S. and we all live by its rules. Write a persuasive essay (300 words or less) to your parent(s) or guardian(s) convincing them to adopt a Family Energy Constitution. Make sure to address energy conservation and using energy-efficient technologies (e.g., ENERGY STAR appliances, LED light bulbs, etc.).
GRADE 7 – Persuasive Speech

You are providing important testimony before members of the Connecticut General Assembly’s Energy and Technology Committee about why our State should become more energy efficient. Write a persuasive speech (300 words or less) about your recommendations for energy conservation, energy-efficient technologies and clean, renewable energy sources. Make sure to consider both sides of the argument (e.g., energy efficiency saves money on energy / solutions for fixing the budget).

GRADE 8 – Script for a Public Service Announcement

Prepare a public service announcement (:30 seconds) for the Wait Til 8 campaign: www.energizect.com/waittil8. Make sure the information is accurate and that the message is clear and persuasive.

* Winners may be asked to record their PSA as advertising for Energize Connecticut programs.

GRADES 9–11 – Community Based Project

Create a plan for a project that will help to address energy-related issues in your community. The plan should focus on energy conservation behaviors. The plan must include background information, data (e.g., projected energy savings and monetary savings), a draft timeline and an estimated project budget to be completed in one year time.

Plans will be evaluated on feasibility, detail and impact, use of energy-saving technologies, cost-effectiveness, and scalability. For projects to be implemented at your school or a town building be sure to work with the facilities personnel, administration, etc.

Can be an individual or group of 5 members or less. Funding up to $1,500 for 1st place, $1,000 for 2nd place, and $500 for 3rd place.

GRADE 12 – Persuasive Image Project

Produce a “Persuasive Image” in words, pictures, or video that advocates for an energy topic. Write a short poem (125 words), draw a cartoon strip (12 cells or less), or make a video (:30 seconds) on energy conservation, an alternate energy source, or environmental concern. Picture yourself meeting with a friend whose attitude on the issue you wish to change to match your opinion.

Entries will be evaluated based on scientific validity and concise and convincing imagery. Every word counts; remember that a picture is worth a thousand words. Video formats must be compatible with Windows® Media Player.

[Logo: ee smarts™]

an energy education learning initiative
For grades K-2 please complete the form and submit it with each package of entries. If a packet contains entries from different grades, please complete a separate form for each grade.

Mail entries for kindergarten through grade 2 to:

**eeSmarts** Contest  
c/o Capitol Region Education Council  
Attention: Gio Koch  
111 Charter Oak Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Submit entries for grades 3-12 online at www.eesmarts.com/contest

Submit grade 12 videos only by sharing via DropBox with gkoch@crec.org. Be sure to include the required contact information in the submission.