Week 3: Caring for our Climate

Day 1
Learn about climate change and how humans have contributed to it, and discuss with your families ways you can work to reduce your carbon footprint.

Write down five or more ways your family can reduce your carbon footprint.

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Day 2
Learn about wind power. Make your own wind turbine and learn about the power of offshore wind.

Turn this piece of paper into a windmill. Follow these instructions online:
www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project-ideas/Energy_p025/energy-power/power-of-a-pinwheel#procedure
Day 3
Learn about solar power and make your own solar oven.

How do solar panels work?

Solar panels are made up of photovoltaic solar cells. When the sun heats these cells, electrons begin to move, creating an electric current. This direct current (DC) electricity is captured by wires and converted into alternating current (AC) electricity by the solar inverter. AC electricity is what flows into your home and powers your electronic devices. Any electricity leftover from powering your home then goes into your electric grid.

How does solar energy help protect the environment?

More solar means less reliance on fossil fuels - and that means fewer greenhouse gas emissions entering our atmosphere and contributing to climate change. Fossil fuels also produce pollutants when extracted and used, endangering our air and water. Solar panels don’t create toxic spills, contribute to smog in our cities or threaten our drinking water with dangerous byproduct. Instead, tapping into the power of the sun means using a clean, virtually limitless energy source to power our homes and businesses.
Week 3: Caring for our Climate

Day 4
Learn about energy efficiency and become an energy vampire slayer!

Write down a list of ways you can make your home more energy efficient.

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Day 5

Learn about how to make healthy communities. Learn about the impact of transportation on our climate. Make a plan for how to incorporate more walking and biking into your family’s daily life — and more public transit, like electric buses, once we get past “social distancing.”

Write down 5 or more ways you can do more walking and biking to get where you need to go.

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