CREATE - Without Re-inventing the Wheel





By Ann Saffery (left), Media & Communications Manager, and John Rodway (right), Education & Training Officer, Centre for Research, Education & Training on Energy, CREATE, UK.

If pupils are involved, then schools can save energy and reduce their energy bills by at least 10%. That is the view of CREATE, one of the key founders of the new ESEEF network. CREATE aims to ensure that schools and communities develop sustainable energy lifestyles without re-inventing the wheel.

Fun Energy

CREATE works in many areas of the UK delivering innovative energy education programs, such as ...

- Energy Champions Over 20,000 pupils have seen a professional theatre show about saving energy. The program is followed by classroom activities and a gift of educational materials.
- Powerbusters, a new CD-ROM where you can save energy in a haunted house. Among other activities, you can find good insulators to stop the Ice Man from melting in the kitchen.
- Hampshire Energy Wise guidance and support for schools as they develop educational activities related to school energy management.
- E-Teams Group of pupils have been set up in schools. (The "E" in E-team stands for Energy and Environment.) The E-Teams investigate energy use and wasteful practices around their school; suggest ways of reducing energy waste; help carry them out; and see how effective the measures are. In some schools, certificates and prizes are awarded for the best energy-saving ideas.
- SchoolEnergy So far over 1,500 schools have benefited from this Invest-to-Save funding program that provides cash rebates to schools that install energy efficiency measures, such as insulation, heating and lighting controls, or renewable energy systems, and develop a whole-school approach to energy management.
- Funergy This is a website that presents a range of fun, learning-based projects for use in the home or classroom environment. On the web site, there is a quiz and you can visit Lolly's Kitchen, Living Room, and Bedroom, and stop the Space Monkeys from taking all the energy by clicking on the energy-wasting objects.

Within the UK

CREATE's services include:

- An information and enquiry service freely available to all teachers, school directors, pupils, members of school boards, etc;
- EnergyWatch a free newsletter to alert teachers and other professionals involved in energy education to recent developments;
- Training for school personnel in ...
 - using the school building as an educational resource for teaching about energy,
 - practical ways of reducing energy consumption without impairing facilities, reducing comfort, or compromising safety,
 - basic energy management for non-engineers, such as school principals;
- Training for personnel from municipalities in presenting energy efficiency to various groups, such as kindergartens and the elderly.

Outside the UK

CREATE's international activities include:

- Educational advice, including the establishment of E-Teams, at schools in Ireland and Greece as part of an EU project in 1999.
- Assisting the development of HOTEM

 a CD-ROM providing down-to-earth
 advice for hotel managers on saving
 energy. This is another EU project
- Advising on energy education in the Ukraine on behalf of the EU.
- Giving advice on the development of energy-related curriculum and extracurriculum activities to be introduced throughout Malaysia.





Lolly from the web-site. You can visit Lolly's house, and stop the Space Monkeys from taking all the energy by clicking on the energy-wasting objects.

The Ice Man from the CD-ROM game. You should find your way to stop the Ice Man from melting in the kitchen.

CREATE (Centre for Research, Education and Training in Energy) is an educational charity for promoting and co-ordinating energy education funded by the UK Government and industry.

CREATE provides advice on energy education and energy management to schools and community organizations.

More information: CREATE, Kenley House, 25 Bridgeman Terrace, Wigan WN1 1TD, UK. Ph: +44- 1942 322271, fax: +44-1942 322273, e-mail info@create.org.uk, www.create.org.uk, www.funergy.org.uk, www.schoolenergy.org.uk, www.schoolsenergywise.com (E-team), www.energy.co.uk/powerbuster.



Photos by CREATE.

These children from Wimbledon Park Primary School are doing a survey about how people in their area use energy. (Photo at the top of the page)



A story of the "Six Sunbeams" was presented here by Ian Davies of the Southamton Energy Efficiency Advice Centre at Borden School in East Hampshire.

E-Team members at the Butts Primary School in Hampshire. They are using the computer to monitor energy.

Join together to help save the planet by making sure your school energy wisely!



The E-Teams in many schools have helped...

- use energy wisely while making schools more comfortable to work in,
- reduce energy consumption by about 10%, consequently reducing school energy bills, so that more money can be available for educational activities and equipment, (Savings are around: £500 for primary and as much as £4000 for secondary schools every year.)
- show that young people care for their environment by taking action on global warming.

One of the keys to success is to involve the whole school community and to get everybody enthusiastic about energy management, including teachers.

Schools that have good ways of managing energy can apply for the Eco-Schools Award.

Web-sites for kids and for schools:

- European network ESEEF (New network see article p.9) www.school4energy.net
- British CREATE (see article p.10-11) www.create.org.uk (several links to adults and kids)
- Finnish MOTIVA:

www.motiva.fi/english (English part of a Finnish site)

- Danish School Energy Forum www.SkolernesEnergiForum.dk/english.htm (See article p. 9 and issue No. 29)
- Irish Energy Center / Ask the rabbit (See article p 13) www.irish-energy.ie
- SPARE (See article in issue No. 29) www.naturvern.no/english/
- Canadian organization: Destination Conservation www.dc.ab.ca (English/French/Spanish)

- Energy Quest, Californian Energy Commission, www.energy.ca.gov/education (Puzzles/ Quiz /As Professor Quester etc. links to kids)
- Energy Smart School Program, US, Department of Energy: www.eren.doe/energysmartschools/
- Planet Energy, Department of Trade and Industry www.dti.gov.uk/renewable/ed_pack/
- Global Warming, Department of Environment, Transport and Regions

www.schools.detr.gov.uk/global/

- Think Energy, Scottish Gas
- www.think-energy.com (English/Scottish/Welsh/Cymraeg)
- Plug in the Sun, Study Notes and Activities, BP Solarex and Association for Science and Education www.bpsolar.com, www.solarpartners.org,
- LIOR Renewable Energy Series, CD-ROM Collection and Eco-village Game. Made in EU. (See Publication List) www.lior-int.com