

# Becoming a SmartKid

Things YOU can do to save energy every day



**S**eal air leaks in your house. Hold a tissue in front of a window frame or edges of doors to see if it waves. These leaks can be like leaving a window or door open all day!

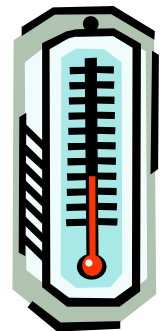
**M**ake sure you unplug things, like small appliances, after you use them. Even something turned "off" uses energy and is the same as a light bulb burning the whole day.

**A**ging appliances can cost your parents lots of money. The older the appliance, the more energy it takes to use it. When your parents buy new appliances, tell them to look for the Energy Star logo. Home products with this logo have met energy guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Energy.



**R**emind your parents to replace air filters at least once a month. Dirty filters block air flow and shorten the life of your air conditioner.

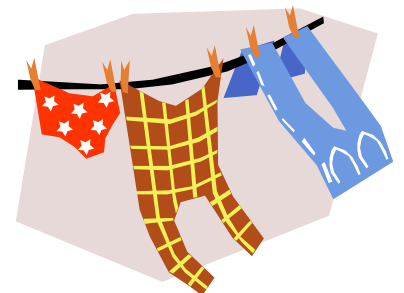
**T**hermostats make a big difference! Help mom and dad pick out a programmable thermostat at your local hardware store. You can set it to memorize your daily patterns and save money on your utility bill!



**K**eep your computer in "sleep mode" after you use it. You will not need to reload everything when you turn it back on, and it will save energy and time.

**I**f you wash laundry only when you have full loads, and use only cold water, you can save lots of energy and money.

**D**ry your laundry on a clothesline outside or on a rack inside instead of putting it in the dryer.



**S**ave up to 50% on your lighting bill by buying Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs. These use about two-thirds less energy and last up to 10 times longer than regular light bulbs.