

## My Family's Ways to Conserve Energy

My family and I can conserve energy in many ways. For example, my brother and I take really long shower and sometimes waste too much water. Our parents pay a lot of money so we can heat the water in our home. We can shorten our showers and save our family water, save energy and save money. My mom washes our clothes with cold water because whether you wash your clothes with cold or warm water, both will come out just as clean. But the difference is that your saving money because your no longer heating the water. I can conserve energy by myself by unplugging my Wii system, alarm clock and DS charger. If I do this, I can save my family \$32.25 a month. That's over \$400 dollars a year!! There is something called, "Electricity Vampires" that live in my home. When I have something like my alarm clock or iPod charger that is plugged into the wall and is not being used, electricity is still being sucked out of that plug. I can prevent this from happening by getting a power strip which I can put at least 6 plugs into and when I'm not using the electrical devices plugged into it, I can just unplug the strip and everything will turn off. I can convince my parents to reuse plastic shopping bags and wash dishes only when the dishwasher is full. (It also takes a lot of energy and a lot of money to heat the water!!) I can also save electricity by buying florescent light bulbs to replace all the lights in my house. If I do these things for my family and myself, I can help reduce our carbon footprint, (or impact), on the earth. I can help myself in the little things I do to make a change and to have a better future!!!

By:

Gianna DeRusso