Energy Efficiency Student Contest

Educator Pamphlet
Spring 2020
Kindergarten through Grade 12
What is eesmarts?

eesmarts is an energy efficiency and clean energy learning initiative, brought to you by the sponsors of Energize ConnecticutSM. 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 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. All contest entries must include an eesmarts Consent and Entry Form which is available for download at EnergizeCT.com/eesmarts.

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 be 8.5" x 11" in size. They may be created in any medium (crayons, watercolors, markers, pastels, etc.). Entries can be submitted online at EnergizeCT.com/eesmarts-submissions, or mailed to: eesmarts contest, c/o CREC, attn: Gio Koch/CRG, 111 Charter Oak Ave, Hartford, CT 06106

• **Grades 3 through 8**
  Word limits for written entries in each grade level are specified in the grade level prompt. Entries must be typed and submitted online at EnergizeCT.com/eesmarts-submissions

• **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 and submitted online at EnergizeCT.com/eesmarts-submissions. Submissions must include the 2020 Grades 9-11 Student Contest Project Cover Sheet, which can be downloaded from EnergizeCT.com/eesmarts-submissions

• **Grade 12**
  Video formats must be compatible with Windows Media Player™. Entries must be submitted as a Word document or a PDF. Videos can be shared via Google Docs to eesmarts@EnergizeCT.com. or mailed: eesmarts contest, c/o CREC, attn: Gio Koch/CRG, 111 Charter Oak Ave, Hartford, CT 06106
Deadline

Entries and registration forms must be received or submitted online no later than June 12, 2020, 11:59 PM.

Where to send entries

Submit entries for grades K-12 online at EnergizeCT.com/eesmarts-submissions. Online submissions are preferred.

Mail entries to:  

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 12, 2020</td>
<td>Entries must be received, or submitted online by this date</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 30, 2020</td>
<td>Winners will be posted online. Certificates and prizes will be mailed.</td>
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Prizes for Kindergarten through Grade 12 (at each grade level)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize Level</th>
<th>Prize Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Prize</td>
<td>$200 Amazon® gift card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Prize</td>
<td>$100 Amazon® gift card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Prize</td>
<td>$50 Amazon® gift card</td>
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</tbody>
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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
- School’s Town/City
- Educator’s Email Address

Entries without correct labeling will NOT be considered. 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 (ee)smarts in saving energy (e.g., turning off lights, using ENERGY STAR® appliances and LED lights, unplugging electronics when they are not in use).

GRADE 3 – Narrative

Write a short story (250 words or less) about saving energy at home or school by recycling; think reduce, reuse, recycle. Explain what your main character is doing to conserve Earth's limited resources by recycling.

GRADE 4 – Letter to Principal

Write a letter (250 words or less) to the principal explaining the importance of saving energy at school. Your letter should include facts about energy, energy efficiency, and specific ideas how energy can be conserved. Remember to use a strong lead and supporting detail for your letter.

GRADE 5 – Book Review

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

• What the book is about.
• The book’s theme or message.
• Your understanding and opinion about the book.
• How this book helps children understand the importance of conserving our natural resources and conserving energy.

Note: If your school library does not have a copy of these books, teachers, please email eesmarts@EnergizeCT.com to request one book at no charge.

GRADE 6 – Persuasive Speech

Write a persuasive speech (300 words or less) to the Connecticut Energy and Technology Committee about how our State can become more energy efficient. Include your recommendations for energy conservation, energy-efficient technologies and clean, renewable energy sources. Make sure to consider both sides of the argument (e.g., clean energy is good for the environment; but, it often costs more than fossil fuels).
GRADE 7 – Persuasive Poem or Cartoon

Write a short poem (125 words) or draw a cartoon strip (8-12 cells) on energy conservation, an alternate energy source, or environmental concern. Use your poem or cartoon to try to convince the public that your opinion is scientifically valid.

GRADE 8 – Script for a Public Service Announcement

Prepare a public service announcement (30 seconds) explaining what weatherization means and why it’s important at home. Make sure the information is accurate and that the message is clear and persuasive. Learn more.

HIGH SCHOOL 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. The project must be able to be completed in one year’s 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. Submissions must include the 2020 Grades 9-11 Student Contest Project Cover Sheet, which can be downloaded from EnergizeCT.com/eesmarts-submissions.

Project can be an individual or group of 3 members or less. First Place winners will be awarded funding up to $1,200 toward implementation of their project.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 12 – Persuasive Image

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. Entries may be shared via Google Docs to eesmarts@EnergizeCT.com or mailed: eesmarts contest, c/o CREC, attn: Gio Koch/CRG, 111 Charter Oak Ave, Hartford, CT 06106.
For more information about eesmarts, call 1-877-514-2594, email: eesmarts@EnergizeCT.com, or log on to EnergizeCT.com/eesmarts-submissions

To schedule a free in class energy lesson or professional development workshop at your school please contact Gio Koch, 111 Charter Oak Ave, Hartford, CT 06106.