



## Saving Your Family's Energy Dollar

CCSSR2—clarify the main/central idea of a passage; support important ideas with examples.

How can you help your family save money on energy this winter? Here are some important ways to save money.

What can you do to help save money in the kitchen?

Keep lids on pots when you cook.

How can we save dollars everywhere in our home?

If your windowpanes are loose, there are leaks. The heat can leak out of your home. You won't see those leaks, but you can make sure you don't have them. Seal windows and doorframes so there is no chance of a leak. With every leak, your family loses money. Your family can save money by sealing along doorframes, too. If you have a window air conditioner, be sure to seal around it, too. Your family can buy tape or seals to weatherproof doors and windows and around pipes. That will help your family save money by keeping the heat inside in winter and outside in summer.

Windows can make your home colder. In winter, you may see ice on your window on the inside. That means you need another window layer. Storm windows and storm doors help a lot. They don't just put another layer between you and the cold. They make an air pocket that is like a cushion between your home and the outside air. If you don't have storm doors and windows, you can buy plastic sheets to tape over the windows. Just be sure to tape carefully. That keeps the cold on the outside of the windows.

Keeping doors and windows closed is another way to save energy. Heat can leave your home if you leave the door open when you take out the trash. Close that door to save money.

Insulation helps save energy. Insulation is a layer between the cold and you. It can keep warmth in and cold out. It is a way to keep a home warm in winter and cool in summer. Outside walls are between your family's home and the cold air. Those walls need to have insulation. Your home's insulation may have holes in it. To find them, look at the walls carefully. If you see dirty spots, that is a clue. You may have found a hole in the insulation. You need to patch it. Then you will have a lower energy bill.

Warm clothes are important. A sweater is like insulation you wear. If everyone in your family wears a sweater inside, you are warmer. Then you could turn your heat down and save money.

Many people turn heat down at night. It is colder at night. But they do not turn up the heat. They use extra blankets to keep warm. They cut down their energy bill. They save money while they sleep.

### Support the Main Idea

What is the main idea of this passage?

Underline five sentences in the passage that support that idea.