

Week 2: Lights On, No One's Home!



We've all been told to turn off the lights when we leave a room or the house, but mindlessly leaving them on when we're in a hurry or feeling lazy can't be that bad, right? Not true: Leaving lights on increases energy consumption (and your utility bill), and it also adds to energy production-related greenhouse gas emissions in our environment.

UNITED KINGDOM CASE STUDY (2018)

- ✓ 6.5 million people admitted to leaving lights on while not in the room at home.
- ✓ This equates to \$2.74 per person per day, or a \$1,000 increase to the utility bill per person per year.
- ✓ This equates to 41,270 tons of carbon dioxide emitted per day, which is equivalent to 62 flights around the world.

Think: What could you do with an extra \$1,000 per year? Who and what are you harming by adding thousands of tons of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere? Is forgetting to turn off the lights worth it?



How can I earn positive points this week?

- Before leaving the house, quickly check each room to ensure no lights are left on
- Put sticky notes near light switches to remind yourself to turn off the lights
- Invest in dimmer switches, which can drastically save energy and increase the lifespan of light bulbs
- Swap old light bulbs for LED bulbs, which last longer, are more efficient, and thus are better for the environment
- Talk to friends, family, and roommates about energy consumption
- Rely on natural sunlight during the day before choosing to turn the lights on

Thank you again for joining the Energy Conservation Challenge. We hope Week 2 is going well and that you are getting the hang of the challenge. Contact iseesustainabilitychallenge@gmail.com with questions, stories, or feedback!

Please submit your [Week 2 Form](#) by Sunday night, 4/16.