

Objective

Student will learn basic rules for using electricity safely.

Curriculum Focus

Science
Art
Language Arts
Math

Materials

- Copy of *Electrical Safety Tips from Power Bear* for each student
- Crayons

Key Vocabulary

Accident
Appliance
Electricity Hazard
Power Line
Safety
Substation

STEM Connection

- Science
- Personal and Social Perspectives
- Engineering
- Historical Perspective
- Math
- Connection to the Real World

Power Bear's Electrical Safety Tips

Introduction

Electricity plays a big role in our daily lives; it provides light, heat, air conditioning and powers many appliances that save time and make our lives more comfortable. It can be a great benefit to us and is safe and convenient when used properly but something so powerful must be treated with respect. Used improperly, electricity can cause fires, shocks, injuries, even death. It is important to know and use basic safety precautions.

Share the Following with Your Students

We must always stay away from power lines, substations or any equipment of the power company. Do not climb trees or fly kites near power lines. Water and electricity are a dangerous combination— do not use electrical appliances near water, dry your hands before using anything powered by electricity and never use electricity when standing in water or on a wet surface.

Be sure electrical appliances and fixtures you use are in good condition—no broken plugs, frayed cords, cracked light switch covers or broken outlets. Child-proof covers should be used on electrical outlets to prevent young children from poking something into one of the holes and receiving an accidental shock.

Electricity can brighten and enhance our lives if we always use it with care and safely.

Procedure

1. Give each student a copy of the coloring book. Students could complete the following activities now or later when they color the pages.
2. Read and discuss each page of the coloring book, emphasizing why it is important to be careful when using electricity.
3. Discuss possible electrical hazards. Make a list on the board and then discuss possible corrective actions. Examples: more than one extension cord in an outlet, cords that can be walked on or tripped over, worn extension cords, pulling cord from outlet, using a fork to remove toast from toaster, appliances near water.
4. Have the students color the pages and take the coloring book home to share with family members.

To Know and Do More

1. Check all the ways electricity is used in your classroom. Make sure electric cords are in good repair, no outlets or switches are broken, electric appliances are not located near a water source, outlets are not overloaded, extension cords are located safely out of traveled paths and electric items are in good repair.
2. Encourage the students to do a similar check of their home or their own room and to involve an older family member or an adult in correcting any safety hazards they may find.

Check for Understanding

1. Have the students share the safety rules they have learned with as many of their family and friends as possible.
2. After two or three days, take a survey to see how many people your class has reached with the electrical safety message.