

# Lights

It's important to have good quality lighting at home and enough light to accomplish tasks.

Lights use electricity, which costs money and can cause pollution.

# Air Conditioning

AC helps you stay cool in hot weather.

AC uses a lot of electricity, which costs money and can cause pollution. AC also removes moisture from your home, which helps you be more comfortable when the air is humid. In our climate, drier air is also better for your health in the summertime.

# Electric Bills

Electricity costs money. Whenever you use electrical appliances or lighting, your parents are charged for it.

This means there is less money available for other things your family needs and wants.

# Insulation

Insulation helps keep your house warm in winter and cool in summer. If your house is well insulated, the heating and AC systems don't have to work as hard.

Good insulation saves money on heating and cooling costs and can reduce air pollution.

# Clean Air

You need clean air to be comfortable and healthy. If too much air flows through your home, however, it removes heat, making the heating system work harder.

Sealing your home too tightly, on the other hand, can trap moisture, causing health problems.

# Weather

The weather greatly affects energy use.

The colder it is outside, the more it costs to heat a home. The hotter it is, the more it costs to keep it cool.

# People

You want to be comfortable in your home. That means you need heat in the winter, which costs money.

One way that people affect indoor air quality is by adding moisture to the air through their activities.

# Oil & Natural Gas Prices

Most homes are heated by a furnace that burns oil or natural gas.

When the cost of these fuels increases, it costs more to heat your home. The cost of these fuels usually rises during winter months.

# Moisture

Too much moisture in a home can lead to mold growth, which can cause health problems. Too little moisture in the air can cause health problems too.

How does moisture get into your home? How does it get into the air?

# Household Budget

Your family has a limited amount of money it can spend each month.

The less money your family spends on energy, the more you can spend on other things that you need and want.

# Heating Bills

Heating your home uses a lot of energy and costs money. The more heat you use, the more your parents must pay.

This means there is less money available for other things you need and want.

# Hot Water

Heating water uses energy and costs money. Most homes use electricity or burn natural gas or oil to heat water.

The more hot water you use, the more your parents have to pay. This means less money available for other things you need and want.

# **Air Pollution/ Global Warming**

When you heat your home, the furnace is releasing emissions that can pollute the air. The electricity you use comes from a power plant, which may also add pollution to the air.

Many of these emissions can contribute to global warming.

# **Heating System**

The colder it is outside, the more fuel your heating system uses.

Insulation in the walls and attic can reduce the amount of heat your home needs, saving energy and money, and reducing pollution.

# **Electrical Appliances**

Refrigerators, TVs, and other appliances use electricity, which costs money. If you leave appliances on when they're not being used, that wastes energy. Appliances also add heat to a home. In the summer, that means the AC has to work harder, using more energy.

# **Comfort**

Comfort is important. You need heat in the winter; you need good lighting and clean air in your home. All of these use energy, which your parents have to pay for.