Energy makes change.
What is Energy?

Energy makes change—it produces a change of some kind; it does things for us. We use energy to move cars along the road and boats over the water. Energy is used to bake a cake in the oven, and to keep ice frozen in the freezer. It provides power so we can listen to our favorite songs on the radio, and light our homes. Energy makes our bodies grow and allows our minds to think. Scientists define energy as the ability to do work.

Energy is found in many different forms such as light, heat, motion, sound, and growth.

Discussion Questions

1. What changes occur with the objects in the pictures (on page 6)?
2. Where does the girl get her energy? (food that she eats) How is she using energy? (to move, see, hear, think, stay warm or cool)
3. Where does the television get its energy? (electricity) What kind of energy does it make? (sound, light, heat)
4. Where does the car get its energy? (battery and gasoline) What kind of energy does it make? (motion, sound, heat)
5. Where does the rain get its energy? (the sun and gravity drive the water cycle)
6. Where does the corn get its energy? (light from the sun)

Activity

1. Look around the classroom and point out things that are using energy. (computer, clock, lights, plants, animals) Decide where each item gets its energy and how it uses it.