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New energy savings kit for schools Federal Environment Agency updated product now available

Detecting and avoiding waste of power is the purpose of the *Energiesparkiste* (energy savings kit), which the Federal Environment Agency developed in 2007 together with the Aktion No-Energy for use at schools. The newly updated kit is now available.

Many electrical appliances use power even when switched off. Such no-load losses incur a waste of power amounting to some four billion euros annually in Germany alone. This is not only a burden on the purse, it also harms the climate since the generation of power leads to emissions of the ozone-depleting greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO₂).

The *Energiesparkiste* kit teaches schoolchildren how to handle a current measuring device which gauges the power consumption of various electrical and electronic equipment in their surroundings. In so doing, they discover a variety of types of no-load losses, calculate the power consumption and energy costs of the devices, and reflect upon their own handling of electrical energy, perhaps realising that a change in behaviour "pays off" -- both financially and for the sake of protecting the environment.

The kit is especially well-suited for use at the primary and middle school levels. In addition to the current measuring devices (energy costs monitors), it has a halogen lamp with a separate power supply unit and an on-off switch. Moreover, it is filled with information and materials for teachers. The *Energiesparen im Haushalt* [Energy saving in the household] and *Computer, Internet und Co.* brochures as well as the *Bye bye Glühbirne* [Farewell to the light bulb] flyer are included as free classroom sets.

The *Energiesparkiste* kit is available to schools free of charge. The *Energiesparkiste* can be ordered exclusively online at: www.no-e.de. The site also provides more information about the "Energiesparkiste" project.

The brochures and flyers enclosed in the kit can also be downloaded free at:

„Energiesparen im Haushalt“

http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/uba-info-medien/mysql_medien.php?anfrage=Kennnummer&Suchwort=188

„Computer, Internet und Co.“

http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/uba-info-medien/mysql_medien.php?anfrage=Kennnummer&Suchwort=3725

„Bye bye Glühbirne“

http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/uba-info-medien/mysql_medien.php?anfrage=Kennummer&Suchwort=3754

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