



ecoTude

changing your schools ecological attitude

Energy use walkthrough

What you are auditing?

From the energy walkthrough you will be able to create an inventory of all the items that consume the bulk of the energy in the school.

Why are you auditing it?

Every major appliance and piece of office equipment uses energy that contributes to the school footprint. Each item also contributes to the footprint through the 'upstream' impact from the raw materials, manufacture and transport. Some of the 'upstream' areas are in other countries, taking into account items such as computers and televisions that are mostly imported from overseas.

Conducting an energy walkthrough audit also identifies potential energy saving actions that could be implemented after the audit.

How do you do it?

1. Before you begin a walkthrough audit you will need to plan ahead and consider the following:
 - a. *Who will conduct the audit?* Small teams investigating different areas of the school will save time.
 - b. *When will you conduct the audit?* So you don't disrupt classes the lunch break may be the best time.
 - c. *How will you get access to student restricted areas?* Seek permission and have a staff member present.
 - d. *How will you know that every area of the school has been done?* Using a map of the school divide it up into sections. Allocate out each section and record who is doing what area.
 - e. *Do you have the resources to conduct this walkthrough at the same time as one of the others?*
2. Determine what questions in the calculator can be answered by this particular audit and note them down.
3. Develop a template to record your observations. A sample is shown below.

4. Energy using items the items you should look out for include:
 - Lights
 - Computers, printers, photocopiers and office equipment
 - Audiovisual equipment (video, DVD, TV, overhead projector)
 - Heaters
 - Air conditioners
 - Fans
 - Refrigerators & freezers
 - Stoves and food warmers
 - Hot water heaters and Urns
 - Kilns
 - Water pumps
 - Drink and snack machines
 - Workshop machinery
 - Specialised classroom equipment
5. In the audit make comments on the current use of the item and list any ideas for reducing your schools energy consumption. You might also like to comment on the energy efficiency rating of the item.
6. Once you have developed a plan, conduct your audit!
7. After completing your audit collect all your data together.
8. Analyse your data in relation to the calculator questions.
9. Record your results in your Eco'tude journal.
10. Enter your results into the online calculator. How has the footprint changed from your best guess trial?

| Energy Use Walkthrough Audit | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Location | Item | Comment | Ideas |
| Classroom 4B | Lights | Left on during breaks | Put up 'turn off' signs |
| | Air-conditioner | Room very cold | Adjust temperature, perhaps open window to let in a breeze |
| Classroom 8A | Lights | Only turned on when room gets dark | |
| | Computer | Left on when not in use | Turn on energy saver mode |
| | Video player | Plugged in, but never used | Disconnect |
| Courtyard | Outdoor lights | Lights are on when it is daylight | Install a timer |

Taking it further

1. Conduct a meter audit to identify when electricity is used in the school.
2. Identify which areas of the school consume the most electricity.
3. Investigate the lifecycle of commonly used products in your school.

