

BROWNIE BADGES TO DO AT HOME



Household Elf

It's great to have a clean home, and even better if it's a clean, green home! In this badge, pick up some new household habits to help your family save energy, save water, and save the planet.

Steps

1. Save energy
2. Save water
3. Go natural
4. Reuse or recycle
5. Clear the air

Purpose

When I've earned this badge, I'll know how to make my home clean and green.

To earn this badge, please complete one option per step.

STEPS	BADGE REQUIREMENTS	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
Step 1	Save energy.	Be a light-saver. For one week, make sure lights are turned off in rooms no one is using.	Go on an energy scavenger hunt. With your family, look for appliances and electronics that are plugged in when they are not in use.	Research at least three ways to use less energy. Then make a plan with your family to be more efficient energy users.
Step 2	Save water.	Use less water by taking shorter baths or showers for one week.	Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth.	Find three ways to save water. Then team up with your family to make a water-saving plan.
Step 3	Go natural.	Make a natural cleaner. Research ways to make a natural cleaner or research how companies are making natural cleaning products.	Make a natural spray to use on plants, flowers, or vegetables. Research natural sprays for plants, flowers, or vegetables.	Create your own reusable bags with cloth, old sheets, t-shirts or other items you have around the house.
Step 4	Reuse or recycle.	Weigh your trash for a week. Then see how many pounds you can reduce in your trash. Is there anything in your recycling you could reuse, such as old jars or plastic bags?	Recycle plastic bags. Collect your leftover plastic bags and save them for future recycling efforts. Research which of your local stores have an option to recycle plastic bags.	Donate toys and clothes. With your family, go through your toys and clothes and set aside what you do not play with or wear anymore. Bag up your things. Research donation centers for future drop-offs.
Step 5	Clear the air.	Clean or replace an air filter. Find out how filters help the air, then with an adult check the filters at your home.	Discover natural filters. Research plants to help to purify the air in your home.	Make a natural air freshener. Work with an adult to make your own fresh scent for the house.