

Energy Tutorial: Energy and Sustainability

Activity: power your postcode

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POWER YOUR POSTCODE

There's a huge debate around how we can maintain our energy-hungry lifestyles – should we go after renewables, build more nuclear capacity, or keep digging up coal?

The trouble with the debate is it can be hard to know just how you can compare the output of a windfarm with a nuclear power station. Even if you know the numbers, it can be challenging to visualise just what they mean in terms of kettles you could boil or holes you could power-drill.



That's where the **Power My Postcode** tool comes in – choose a power source, choose a neighbourhood, and see how many households you could plug into the generator.

Visit the website below and explore:

- how many households some of the main forms of energy can power;
- the way energy from the sun, fossil fuels and nuclear is converted into electricity in our homes;
- if you can put together a grid to keep the lights on for the whole nation.

Power My Postcode (by the Open University):

http://ec2-54-158-178-186.compute-1.amazonaws.com/powermypostcode/

Make a note of your findings in your Activity Log.