Name:

MoneySense Making sense of money

Climate change detectives

When we use lots of energy to power our homes, go places, or make things like food and clothes, we also produce greenhouse gases. These gases are bad for the planet, making it heat up – we call this global warming. Global warming leads to climate change, which is when the Earth's weather and temperature become unpredictable and sometimes dangerous. But did you know there are lots of ways we can help to fight climate change and global warming in our everyday lives?



The picture above shows the Green family's home. In and around it we've hidden 10 eco errors – these are things they do, or ways they behave, that are contributing to climate change AND costing them money. We need you to do some detective work and circle as many eco errors as you can, and then turn over to discover how you can make better choices for the planet.

Climate change detectives

Detectives, did you spot the 10 eco errors?

They were:

- 1. A deep bath. Taking a quick shower or a shallow bath instead can save lots of water and electricity, which is kinder to the planet and will also make your family's bills cheaper.
- 2. A hot radiator and an open window. Making sure your windows are closed before you turn the heating on will make your home warmer and cost less!
- **3. Lights on in an empty room.** Turning off the lights when you're not in the room will save energy and money.
- **4. A plane in the sky.** Flying produces lots of greenhouse gases. Taking holidays closer to home, and travelling by train, is kinder to the environment and often cheaper too!
- 5. A TV that isn't switched off at the plug. Leaving your TV plugged in still uses electricity and costs money, so make sure you turn it off at the plug!
- **6. A tumble dryer.** Drying your clothes in a tumble dryer uses lots of energy so if it's a nice day, why not hang your washing to dry outside instead?
- 7. A rubbish bin with cardboard and glass in it. Recycling things like glass, plastic and cardboard is kinder to the planet and usually makes products cheaper, too.
- **8. Plastic bottles of water.** Plastic bottles can take more than 1,000 years to biodegrade! Why not buy a reusable bottle and drink tap water instead?
- **9. A big car.** Lots of families need a car to get around, but most cars produce harmful greenhouse gases. Are there times you could walk, cycle or scoot instead?
- **10.** A computer left switched on. Making sure you always shut down computers and games consoles when you finish using them will save energy and money.

My eco promise

Now that you've seen the mistakes the Green family were making, can you think of anything you and your family could do to help save the planet and some money? Write your eco promise in the space below and put it on your wall so you can keep track of your progress!

My eco promise is to	•	•••••
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