

HOW TO CREATE TEACHABLE MOMENTS FOR KIDS

A teachable moment is an unplanned, or intentionally placed, learning opportunity. These can happen anywhere and at anytime. They provide parents, guardians, and teachers the chance to help children learn new concepts and deepen their understanding of previously acquired knowledge. This can also be very useful when considering the design process as students can be more informed as they develop future iterations.

Parents, guardians and teachers have learned to watch for these moments. They listen and pay close attention ready to pounce with questions or thoughtful discussion at any time. We can create these moments especially when kids are working on a project or doing their homework by asking open ended questions. More importantly we need to be ready to explain and discuss the 'why' behind the child's answer and encourage them to research and dig deeper. This 'why' is the key to creating the teachable moment to better decode the world they live in.

Sometimes these questions and discussions can lead to questions that adults can't answer and this is the golden opportunity to model how to learn instead of what to learn! When you don't have the answer it gives kids the chance to learn alongside you: "That's a great question! Let's look it up together!" This builds confidence because it's ok that we don't always have all the answers. More importantly, it gives kids the sense of pride to learn that we are all life-long-learners.

CAN YOU HARNESS THE WIND? TEACHABLE MOMENT QUESTIONS

Create a visual design or postcard to encourage your province to harness the power of the wind. Write a letter to promote the benefits of wind energy.

How much does it cost for electricity in your home? Create a diagram to compare the different months. Look at your family electricity bill to gather that information.

What effects do wind turbines have on people living near them?

What effects do wind turbines have on nature?

Could the design of a windmill have an impact on how it fits amongst it's natural surroundings?

Explore the effects that wind has on movement. What happens when you run against the direction of wind?

What happens when you run in the same direction the wind is blowing? Time yourself and compare your results.

Explore the sound of the wind in your backyard?

What causes the sounds, where are they coming from?

How would your community or other communities respond if wind turbines were put in the community?

How could it affect the daily lives of people living nearby?

What is kinetic energy?

What is mechanical energy?

How can we change kinetic energy into mechanical energy?

How can we transform kinetic or mechanical energy into electricity?

Interested in working with wind energy? Look into what careers are available. Do you have an innovative new windmill design you'd like to develop? Contact us and we can help!

