

# Nov. Grade 4: Unit 2: Energy

Content Area: **Art**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **November**  
Length: **6-8 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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In this unit students will learn how energy and motion are related, how energy transfers in a collision, how energy transfers through sound, light, heat and electric currents, and how energy is stored and used. They will explore how people choose their energy resources.

## Enduring Understandings

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Energy is related to motion and is transferred through collisions in physical objects, as well as sound, light, heat and electric currents.

Energy can be stored for later use.

People use different criteria in choosing an energy source.

## Essential Questions

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How is energy and motion related?

How is energy transferred through collisions, sound, light, heat and electric currents?

How is energy stored and used?

How do people choose their energy resource?

## Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

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**TEACHERS:** These units are linked directly to TCI Science Alive! NGSS teaching materials.

- [1](#)  
[How Are Energy and Motion Related?](#)  
Students design a ramp that will roll a ball a certain distance.  
[Reading Further:](#) Coaster Energy

- [2](#)  
[How Is Energy Transferred by Colliding Objects?](#)  
 Students use straws hanging from a zipline to model collisions. They ask testable questions about the energy of the straws, and then answer them using information from this investigation.  
[Reading Further:](#) Dummies Keep Getting Smarter
  
- [3](#)  
[How Is Energy Transferred by Sound, Light, and Heat?](#)  
 Students make observations to identify how energy is transferred through heat, sound, or light. They use their knowledge of energy transfers to come up with solutions to various problems.  
[Reading Further:](#) Energy from Smartphones
  
- [4](#)  
[How Is Energy Transferred by Electric Currents?](#)  
 Students use circuits to investigate how electric current transfers energy. Then they build and solve a puzzle using electric currents.  
[Reading Further:](#) The Business of Creativity
  
- [5](#)  
[How Is Energy Stored and Used?](#)  
 Students act as engineers to design and build a lunchbox alarm.  
[Reading Further:](#) Blackout!
  
- [6](#)  
[How Do People Choose Energy Resources?](#)  
 Students act as advisors to research and report on different energy resources for a power plant.  
[Reading Further:](#) Your Energy Future

## **Integration of Career Exploration, Life Literacies and Key Skills**

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CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.

CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.
WRK.9.2.5.CAP.1	Evaluate personal likes and dislikes and identify careers that might be suited to personal likes.
WRK.9.2.5.CAP.2	Identify how you might like to earn an income.
WRK.9.2.5.CAP.3	Identify qualifications needed to pursue traditional and non-traditional careers and occupations.
TECH.9.4.5.CI.1	Use appropriate communication technologies to collaborate with individuals with diverse perspectives about a local and/or global climate change issue and deliberate about possible solutions (e.g., W.4.6, 3.MD.B.3,7.1.NM.IPERS.6).
TECH.9.4.5.CI.2	Investigate a persistent local or global issue, such as climate change, and collaborate with individuals with diverse perspectives to improve upon current actions designed to address the issue (e.g., 6.3.5.CivicsPD.3, W.5.7).
TECH.9.4.5.CI.3	Participate in a brainstorming session with individuals with diverse perspectives to expand one's thinking about a topic of curiosity (e.g., 8.2.5.ED.2, 1.5.5.CR1a).
TECH.9.4.5.CT.1	Identify and gather relevant data that will aid in the problem-solving process (e.g., 2.1.5.EH.4, 4-ESS3-1, 6.3.5.CivicsPD.2).
TECH.9.4.5.CT.2	Identify a problem and list the types of individuals and resources (e.g., school, community agencies, governmental, online) that can aid in solving the problem (e.g., 2.1.5.CHSS.1, 4-ESS3-1).
TECH.9.4.5.CT.4	Apply critical thinking and problem-solving strategies to different types of problems such as personal, academic, community and global (e.g., 6.1.5.CivicsCM.3).
TECH.9.4.5.TL.3	Format a document using a word processing application to enhance text, change page formatting, and include appropriate images graphics, or symbols.
TECH.9.4.5.IML.6	Use appropriate sources of information from diverse sources, contexts, disciplines, and cultures to answer questions (e.g., RI.5.7, 6.1.5.HistoryCC.7, 7.1.NM. IPRET.5).
	Collaboration with individuals with diverse perspectives can result in new ways of thinking and/or innovative solutions.
	Accurate and comprehensive information comes in a variety of platforms and formats and is the basis for effective decision-making.
	An individual's passions, aptitude and skills can affect his/her employment and earning potential.

## Technology And Design Integration

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-Online games for each unit

-Generation Genius

-Bill Nye

-Brainpop

-TCI website

CS.3-5.8.1.5.DA.1	Collect, organize, and display data in order to highlight relationships or support a claim.
CS.3-5.8.1.5.DA.3	Organize and present collected data visually to communicate insights gained from different views of the data.
CS.3-5.8.1.5.DA.5	Propose cause and effect relationships, predict outcomes, or communicate ideas using

	data.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.2	Collaborate with peers to collect information, brainstorm to solve a problem, and evaluate all possible solutions to provide the best results with supporting sketches or models.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.3	Follow step by step directions to assemble a product or solve a problem, using appropriate tools to accomplish the task.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.4	Explain factors that influence the development and function of products and systems (e.g., resources, criteria, desired features, constraints).
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.5	Describe how specifications and limitations impact the engineering design process.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.6	Evaluate and test alternative solutions to a problem using the constraints and trade-offs identified in the design process.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.1	Describe how resources such as material, energy, information, time, tools, people, and capital are used in products or systems.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.2	Describe ways that various technologies are used to reduce improper use of resources.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.3	Explain why human-designed systems, products, and environments need to be constantly monitored, maintained, and improved.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.4	Explain the impact that resources, such as energy and materials used to develop technology, have on the environment.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.5	Identify the impact of a specific technology on the environment and determine what can be done to increase positive effects and to reduce any negative effects, such as climate change.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ITH.1	Explain how societal needs and wants influence the development and function of a product and a system.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ITH.2	Evaluate how well a new tool has met its intended purpose and identify any shortcomings it might have.
TECH.8.1.5.A.1	Select and use the appropriate digital tools and resources to accomplish a variety of tasks including solving problems.
TECH.8.1.5.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems
TECH.8.1.5.A.CS2	Select and use applications effectively and productively.
	Engineering design is a systematic and creative process of communicating and collaborating to meet a design challenge. Often, several design solutions exist, each better in some way than the others.
	Societal needs and wants determine which new tools are developed to address real-world problems.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

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LA.L.4.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.4.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.4.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
LA.L.4.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
LA.L.4.6	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of

being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., wildlife, conservation, and endangered when discussing animal preservation).

LA.W.4.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
LA.W.4.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.4.5	With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
LA.W.4.6	With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting.
LA.W.4.7	Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.
LA.W.4.8	Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.
LA.W.4.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.W.4.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self-correction and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
LA.RF.4.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding and encoding words.
LA.RF.4.4	Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
LA.RI.4.1	Refer to details and examples in a text and make relevant connections when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
LA.RI.4.2	Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.
LA.RI.4.3	Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
LA.RI.4.4	Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.
LA.RI.4.6	Compare and contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic; describe the differences in focus and the information provided.
LA.RI.4.7	Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
LA.RI.4.8	Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.
LA.RI.4.9	Integrate and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.
LA.RI.4.10	By the end of year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed.
LA.SL.4.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
LA.SL.4.4	Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner,

using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes;  
speak clearly at an understandable pace.

## **Differentiation**

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- Understand that gifted students, just like all students, come to school to learn and be challenged.
- Pre-assess your students. Find out their areas of strength as well as those areas you may need to address before students move on.
- Consider grouping gifted students together for at least part of the school day.
- Plan for differentiation. Consider pre-assessments, extension activities, and compacting the curriculum.
- Use phrases like "You've shown you don't need more practice" or "You need more practice" instead of words like "qualify" or "eligible" when referring to extension work.
- Encourage high-ability students to take on challenges. Because they're often used to getting good grades, gifted students may be risk averse.
  
- **Definitions of Differentiation Components:**
  - Content – the specific information that is to be taught in the lesson/unit/course of instruction.
  - Process – how the student will acquire the content information.
  - Product – how the student will demonstrate understanding of the content.
  - Learning Environment – the environment where learning is taking place including physical location and/or student grouping

### **Differentiation occurring in this unit:**

Utilize differentiation suggestions in the TCI Science Alive! program for enrichment and support.

## **Modifications & Accommodations**

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Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMODATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

### **Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:**

Utilize 504 and IEP accommodations where required.

## **Benchmark Assessments**

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**Benchmark Assessments** are given periodically (e.g., at the end of every quarter or as frequently as once per month) throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a

standard or set of academic standards and goals.

**Schoolwide Benchmark assessments:**

Aimswest benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

DRA

**Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:**

-End of unit assessments

-Online quizzes

-TCI packet responses

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**Formative Assessments**

Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

**Formative Assessments used in this unit:**

TCI worksheets, quizzes

Discussion

Teacher observation

Labs and Hands on activities

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**Summative Assessments**

**Summative assessments** evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

### **Summative assessments for this unit:**

Unit assessments in the TCI program

## **Instructional Materials**

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Materials for labs indicated in TCI program

## **Standards**

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SCI.4.PS3.A	Definitions of Energy
SCI.4.PS3.A	Definitions of Energy
SCI.4.PS3.B	Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer
SCI.4.PS3.B	Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer
SCI.4.PS3.B	Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer
SCI.4.PS3.C	Relationship Between Energy and Forces
SCI.4.PS3.D	Energy in Chemical Processes and Everyday Life
SCI.4.ETS1.A	Defining Engineering Problems
SCI.3-5-ETS1-2	Generate and compare multiple possible solutions to a problem based on how well each is likely to meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.
SCI.3-5-ETS1-1	Define a simple design problem reflecting a need or a want that includes specified criteria for success and constraints on materials, time, or cost.
SCI.4-PS3-4	Apply scientific ideas to design, test, and refine a device that converts energy from one form to another.
SCI.4-PS3-3	Ask questions and predict outcomes about the changes in energy that occur when objects collide.
SCI.4-PS3	Energy
SCI.4-PS3-2	Make observations to provide evidence that energy can be transferred from place to place by sound, light, heat, and electric currents.
SCI.4-PS3-3	Ask questions and predict outcomes about the changes in energy that occur when objects collide.



Use evidence to construct an explanation relating the speed of an object to the energy of that object.

Devices should be limited to those that convert motion energy to electric energy or use stored energy to cause motion or produce light or sound.

Light also transfers energy from place to place.

Energy can be transferred in various ways and between objects.

Assessment does not include quantitative measurements of energy.

Energy can be moved from place to place by moving objects or through sound, light, or electric currents.

#### Asking Questions and Defining Problems

Asking questions and defining problems in grades 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to specifying qualitative relationships.

Energy can also be transferred from place to place by electric currents, which can then be used locally to produce motion, sound, heat, or light. The currents may have been produced to begin with by transforming the energy of motion into electrical energy.

Examples of devices could include electric circuits that convert electrical energy into motion energy of a vehicle, light, or sound; and, a passive solar heater that converts light into heat. Examples of constraints could include the materials, cost, or time to design the device.

#### Energy and Matter

Possible solutions to a problem are limited by available materials and resources (constraints). The success of a designed solution is determined by considering the desired features of a solution(criteria). Different proposals for solutions can be compared on the basis of how well each one meets the specified criteria for success or how well each takes the constraints into account.

Energy can also be transferred from place to place by electric currents, which can then be used locally to produce motion, sound, heat, or light. The currents may have been produced to begin with by transforming the energy of motion into electrical energy.

Energy is present whenever there are moving objects, sound, light, or heat. When objects collide, energy can be transferred from one object to another, thereby changing their motion. In such collisions, some energy is typically also transferred to the surrounding air; as a result, the air gets heated and sound is produced.

Energy can be transferred in various ways and between objects.

Assessment does not include quantitative measurements of energy.

The expression “produce energy” typically refers to the conversion of stored energy into a desired form for practical use.

Planning and carrying out investigations to answer questions or test solutions to problems in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to include investigations that control variables and provide evidence to support explanations or design solutions.

#### Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

Make observations to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence for an explanation of a phenomenon or test a design solution.

Ask questions that can be investigated and predict reasonable outcomes based on patterns such as cause and effect relationships.

#### Energy and Matter

Energy can be transferred in various ways and between objects.

#### Planning and Carrying Out Investigations

Energy can be moved from place to place by moving objects or through sound, light, or electric currents.

Energy is present whenever there are moving objects, sound, light, or heat. When objects collide, energy can be transferred from one object to another, thereby changing their motion. In such collisions, some energy is typically also transferred to the surrounding air; as a result, the air gets heated and sound is produced.

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to the use of evidence in constructing explanations that specify variables that describe and predict phenomena and in designing multiple solutions to design problems.

Assessment does not include quantitative measures of changes in the speed of an object or on any precise or quantitative definition of energy.

When objects collide, the contact forces transfer energy so as to change the objects' motions.