

Activity 1

Reproducible Master

Knowledge is Power

You've heard it before: education is the key to success. Here's a chance to find out why education is so important, and how you can start improving your education today.



In Telemundo's *El Poder de Saber* TV campaign, Roser tells you why it makes (dollars and) sense to stay in school.



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Part 1: Earning Power

It makes sense to stay in school. In fact, it makes dollars and sense. The numbers show that you will earn a lot more in life if you complete your education. Take a look:

Average Earnings Per Year

High School Drop-out	\$18,900
High School Graduate	\$25,900
College Graduate	\$45,400

You can see that it will probably cost you \$7,000 per year for the rest of your life if you drop out of high school. And a whopping \$26,500 per year if you don't graduate from college. But let's turn it around. Let's say that you are actually earning \$7,000 a year by staying in high school. So how much does that add up to over a lifetime's work? Do the math to find out.

★ \$7,000 yearly bonus for high school graduates
x 40 years of work = \$ _____ lifetime bonus

Now calculate your lifetime bonus for completing college:

★ \$26,500 yearly bonus for college graduates
x 40 years of work = \$ _____ lifetime bonus

That's a lot of money! And you earn some of it every day you stay in school. Plus a school year is only about 180 days long, so it will take only 720 days to earn your lifetime high school bonus, plus another 720 days to earn that college bonus. So how much are you earning today?

★ Lifetime high school bonus: \$ _____
÷ 720 school days = \$ _____ daily earnings

★ Lifetime college bonus: \$ _____
÷ 1,440 school days = \$ _____ daily earnings

Admit it. You can't afford to drop out if you want to make your dreams come true!

Part 2: Learning Power

Did you ever wonder while you were sitting in class, "When will I ever need to know *this* in real life?" The answer might surprise you. People in real life use what they learned in school every day. Just take a look at the daily schedules of these three busy professionals. Can you name the academic skills they need to succeed at their jobs?

Occupation: **Sales Manager**

• 9AM:
Submit expense report

SKILLS:

Occupation: **TV Sports Reporter**

• 1PM:
Research story on record-breaking quarterback

SKILLS:

Occupation: **Head Chef**

• 3PM:
Check tonight's menu for allergy-causing ingredients

SKILLS:

Why not ask a parent what academic skills he or she uses on the job? You're likely to find out that knowledge really does pay off every day.

Part 3: The Power Hour

Now that you've seen the real power of a good education, what can you do to power-up your own performance in school? Here are some tips to help you get started:

1. Schedule a daily "power hour" for studying. It can be a different hour each day, depending on your other activities.
2. Find a good place where you can concentrate. If there's no place at home, try your local library.
3. Use the **SQ3R** study method: **S**urvey, **Q**uestion, **R**ead, **R**ecite, and **R**eview.

★ **Survey** means getting the "big picture."

★ **Question** means asking who, what, when, where, or why about a subject or topic.

★ **Read** means finding the answers to the questions you raised, and taking cues from the way information is presented (in boldface, sidebars, etc.).

★ **Recite** means recalling what you've read, and making links to other related information to help you remember.

★ **Review** means to go back and strengthen the areas that are unclear or didn't stay with you the first time.

Need more advice? Ask a parent about his or her experiences in school and what they learned about the importance of studying. You might learn something surprising!

Activity 2

Reproducible Master

Knowledge in Action

Put the power of knowledge into action in your community. Learn about these important issues and how you can help others learn about them, too.



In Telemundo's *El Poder de Saber* TV campaign, Candela Ferro promotes protecting the environment.



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Part 1: Vote for Your Future

Being an informed citizen gives you power — voting power! Use this information to empower your family and friends for this year's presidential election.

★ **Research** — Do you know where the presidential candidates stand on the issues? Do some research and fill in their positions on the chart provided here. Then share what you learn with your family and decide which candidate you support.

★ **Register** — All American citizens who are 18 or older have the right to vote. But before you can vote, you have to be registered. Visit the Voter Information Center of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission at www.eac.gov/voter to find out how to register in your state.

The Issues	_____ 's Position	_____ 's Position
Education		
Health Care		
The Environment		
Other:		
Other:		

★ **Vote** — Registered voters who cannot cast a ballot on election day can vote in advance by absentee ballot. To find out who to contact for an absentee ballot in your state, visit the National Association of State Election Directors website at www.nased.org/membership.htm. Your state election office can also help if you need a ballot in a language other than English.



Part 2: Green Alert

You have the power to help save our planet. And it's as easy as turning off a light when you don't need it. Because every time you save a bit of energy, you are helping to reduce the main cause of global warming and make Earth's environment a little safer.

Did you know that a single 60-watt light bulb can burn through the power in two pounds of coal in just one day? Use this energy audit chart to estimate how much power the light bulbs and other electrical appliances in your home could use up in a day.

When you imagine all that coal sending greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, it's easy to see how saving energy can help save our planet. So how can you help? To start with, you might replace your incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs that are just as bright but use only one-fourth the power. Talk with your family about other ways you can help make our planet's future clean and green.



Home Energy Audit				
	Typical energy use per hour	Energy used over 24 hours	How many in your home?	How much energy used per day?
Light bulb	60 watts	1,440 watts	x	=
	100 watts	2,400 watts	x	=
Microwave	1,000 watts	24,000 watts	x	=
Refrigerator	725 watts	17,400 watts	x	=
TV	130 watts	3,120 watts	x	=
DVD Player	25 watts	600 watts	x	=
Hair Dryer	1,200 watts	28,800 watts	x	=
Computer	270 watts	6,480 watts	x	=
TOTAL				
÷ 1,440 watts				
x 2 pounds of coal				

Part 3: Digital Alert

TV is not only entertaining but also an important source of news and information. That's why everyone should know that TV is changing on February 17, 2009. Starting that day, all TV stations will switch from analog to digital transmission. The switch will provide added emergency communication channels for firefighters and police. But it will also mean that TV sets that use a rooftop antenna or "rabbit ears" will no longer work unless they are attached to a special **converter box**.

The converter box is available now at most electronics stores, and you can obtain free coupons to help pay for it. Visit www.dtv2009.gov or call toll-free 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009) to learn the details. Then use what you learn to answer these questions.



1. How much are the converter box coupons worth? \$ _____
2. How many coupons can a household receive? _____
3. What must you do to obtain a coupon? _____
4. What is the time limit on using the coupons? _____

Now pass your knowledge on to a family member or friend who might get "tuned out" next February 17. Help that person be prepared for the big switch!