



KEEP YOUR COOL!



Have you ever felt a breeze walking by an open window? That is good when you have the window open, but if you still feel a bit of a breeze when the window is closed then the window frame might be too big or have cracks. These gaps allow air to move in and out of your house when you don't want it to, which can make the temperature inside of your house uncomfortable. **This activity helps to show how poorly fitted windows and doors can affect your home's internal temperature!**

AIR LEAKS are the heat that escapes from a home through the roof, walls, windows, and floors.

TEST THE GAP: Take a sheet of paper and close it into the door frame - if you can remove the paper without tearing it, you may need weather stripping or a door sweep!

In addition to feeling more comfortable in your home, the EPA estimates poor air sealing adds **over 15%** to your energy utilization.

Fixing **AIR LEAKS** by sealing leaks and adding insulation can improve the comfort of your home and help to decrease: noise from outside, pollen, dust, or insects entering your home, humidity, and ice dams on the roof in winter

If you added up all the leaks, holes, and gaps in a typical home, it would be like having a window open every day of the year!!

For more activities and information visit REvUpTheFun.org and

 (207) 753-6626 **conservemaineenergy.org**

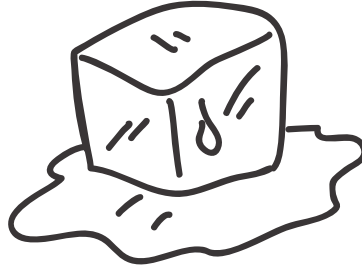
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The best way to stop heat loss and keep your heat or cool air within your home is to insulate and seal your home. While the largest culprits for heat loss is windows and doors, insulating walls, attic doors, and vents will also decrease unnecessary energy use!

Energy efficiency activity!

YOUR JOB IS TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO KEEP YOUR ICE CUBE FROM MELTING!



1. Gather all your materials, keeping your ice cubes in the freezer until needed
2. To see how long it would take the ice cube to melt without any air leaking in, set up one container with a fitting lid. This is what we call a **"control"** because it shows us how the ice cube would melt in a home without air leaks.
3. To see how long an ice cube would last in a room with a poorly fitted window, set up the second container with the smaller lid. Because the lid is too small, get creative to **seal** the lid to the container with duct tape and **decrease air flow**. Don't completely close the container yet!
4. Once you have figured out how to attach the smaller lid to the container, put 1-2 ice cubes into each container and set a timer.
5. The first container to have ice cubes melt is the **"leakier"** home!

FOR THIS ACTIVITY, YOU WILL NEED:

- 1 medium-size container with lid
- 1 medium-size container without lid
- 1 small container lid
- 4-6 ice cubes
- Tape
- Timer
- Other materials to "seal" your container

WINDOWS SHOULD FIT INTO WINDOW FRAMES LIKE A GLOVE TO AVOID DRAFTS LEAKING IN.

If you have three sets of containers, you can do three at the same time: set up one container with a fitted lid, one with your DIY lid, and one without a lid all at the same time. Record how long the ice cube lasts in each container

