The Village Illuminator

A Guide for Teachers and Parents

Written by Sofie Dewayani
Illustrated by VanniaSantoso

THEMES

STEAM, | Community | Conservation & Environment

SUB-THEMES

Renewable energy | Women in science and innovation | Empowerment through clean technology | Sustainable development

Story Discussion Guide

- Understand the importance of renewable energy in daily life.
- Learn how sustainable solutions can empower entire communities
- . Be introduced to real-world changemakers like Tri Mumpuni.
- Reflect on their own ideas for improving life in their surroundings.
- Understand the importance of conserving energy and how to do so.

Lesson plan

This story is a powerful gateway to teaching environmental science and gender empowerment. It blends engineering with empathy, showing how innovation can uplift communities. It also introduces solar energy and teaches why using less electricity helps the planet.

Learning Outcome

Before Reading:

- What do you use electricity for every day?
- What happens in places without electricity? Why should we save electricity?

During Reading :

- How did Tri Mumpuni help the villagers?
- What did the villagers do to support the project?
- How did electricity change their lives?
- What is solar energy and why is it helpful?

After Reading:

- Why is clean energy better for the environment?
- What kind of power could your school or home use?
- What can you do to conserve energy at home and school?

Activities:

- Build a Simple Circuit: Let students light a bulb using a battery to understand electricity.
- Make a simple solar energy device . Alternatively, charge a small solar charged lamp outside the classroom. Compare the benefits
- Power Map: Research how homes in different parts of the world get their energy.
- Hero Poster: Create a poster celebrating Tri Mumpuni or other green innovators.
- Save Energy Chart: Track ways students can save electricity each day (e.g., turning off lights, unplugging chargers).

Expected Outcomes

Students will gain an early appreciation for sustainable energy and community development, and understand that change begins with ideas and action—even from kids. They will also learn how conserving energy at home and school can help reduce harm to the planet.

Applicable SDGs

- SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG 13 – Climate Action

SDG Explanation

- SDG 7: The story highlights the need for energy access that is both clean and equitable. Solar and micro-hydro power are renewable sources that help communities grow sustainably.
- SDG 13: Clean energy solutions reduce carbon emissions and build climate resilience in communities

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit initiative that curates children's stories from diverse cultures and lived experiences around the world. It gives children a window into other communities—and a mirror that affirms their own, helping children recognize the shared humanity that connects us across differences.

Through narratives that gently challenge biases and broaden worldviews, Zamasama helps children see difference not as a barrier but as a bridge. Through the power of stories, we sow the seeds of pluralism that can grow into a more harmonious world for all.