

Atomica Saves the World!

There once was a place called the Land of Beauty, in which lived many precious creatures. The Land of Beauty was near enough perfect; it was not too hot, not too cold and it had just the right balance of rain and sunlight for all living things.



However, the Land of Beauty was very close to the 'Land of No Hope'... The Land of No Hope was a 'dead zone'. It was very hot, dry and barren, and the people from the Land of Beauty could not survive there.

A comfortable life depends on food, water, shelter, medicine. We need heat in winter, to be cool in summer, transport and many more things. These all need energy to work.

For this energy, the people of the Land of Beauty employed a very old giant named Sooty. Sooty was very strong and worked by eating 'fossil fuels'.

Although helpful in many ways, Sooty belched greenhouse gases into the atmosphere because of the food he ate. This caused problems and made the earth even hotter!



Every day, more of the Land of Beauty died and turned into the Land of No Hope. The question was, how could people have a comfortable life, with the energy that it needs, without the Land of Beauty being damaged anymore?

Simply putting a wall around the Land of Beauty was no good because it was connected to everyone and everything else on the planet.

Villagers tried to plant more trees, to absorb Sooty's greenhouse gas waste. But there simply wasn't enough space for all the trees they would need.

People agreed to stop making energy 'the old, dirty way'. They hoped to be able to let Sooty retire and use someone else to make energy.

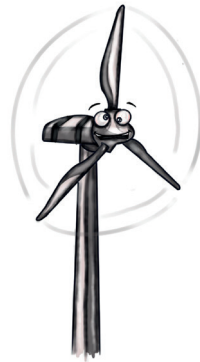


But simply turning Sooty off and using less of everything made people uncomfortable and grumpy and they started to fight.

Sooty was tired and suggested the people hand over the job to some of his relatives, who could also convert energy. They were the five 'Renewable brothers', called:-



Shiny



Puff



Hydro



Woody



Rocky

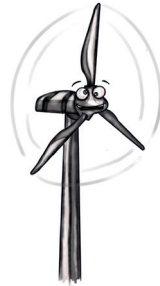
Each brother had their own special way to make energy.

Shiny captures the sun's light and heat energy. But could only work during the day and on sunny days, not when it's cloudy.



But the villagers were not told this!

Puff can use the motion of the wind for energy. To work best, Puff needs the wind speed to be just right. If there is too much, or too little wind, he stops!



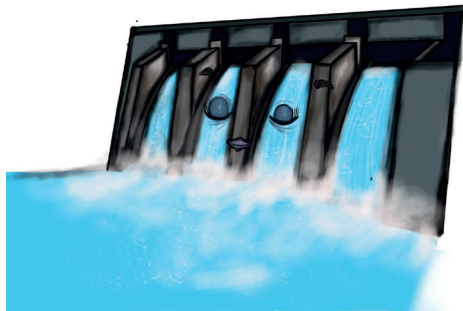
But the villagers were not told this!



Rocky could use heat energy from deep in the earth. The problem was, there were not many places he could dig to find enough heat.

Hydro had been making lots of electricity whenever it's needed for everyone for years. The problem was that Hydro could not find enough places to store the water needed and this meant he could not help as much as he would have liked.

Again, the villagers were not told this!



Finally, there was Woody, who like Sooty, burns things to make energy. And sadly, he also belches the same nasty gases into the air that make earth hotter.

Woody had started to burn waste wood that no-one wanted, but when that ran out, he started to burn big beautiful trees from forests.

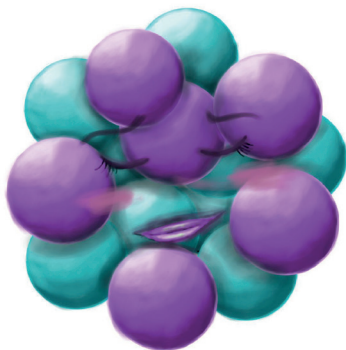
Guess what? Like before, the villagers were not told this either!



When the villagers and the children discovered that Woody did most of the work to help Sooty retire, and still could not stop the Land of Beauty turning into the Land of No Hope, they were deeply disappointed.

People had believed the brothers, who had promised that wind and sunshine were best. Now they could not let anyone know that really they could not help as much as they had hoped.

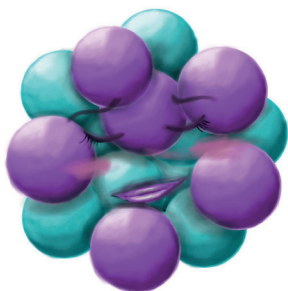
One thing the villagers and the children had not considered was the brothers' younger sister, Atomica, who eats a metal called 'uranium' to make energy. She does not need to use lots of things to do this, nor does she belch dangerous greenhouse gases.



Atomica is extremely powerful - far more powerful than Sooty. Some people were afraid of her, because she is so different from the five brothers.

People often are afraid of new things they haven't used before.

The villagers and children loved their people and their land. They asked Atomica to help protect the Land of Beauty and she said yes; she was happy to help!



The children could show their elders that hope was not lost and that the creatures of the Land of Beauty could be saved from the Land of No Hope after all.

And Sooty could finally enjoy retirement.

THE END 😊

Resources to look up:

* Energy * Fossil fuels * Renewable * Uranium *

Credits: The Nuclear Industry Benevolent Fund

Illustrations by Isobel Pattison, Ideas by John Assheton, Story by Marie Zabell