

The Magic School Bus and the Electric Field Trip
Discussion Guide
Grades: 2 — 5

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Discuss the idea of what types of electricity are in our everyday lives
- Before reading, have a class discussion to activate prior knowledge about electricity. Do you know how electricity is generated? Make a list of student generated responses on an anchor chart or whiteboard.
- Frontload vocabulary: electricity, atoms, electrons, particles, current, insulation, magnet, steam, turbine, generator

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- How is electricity generated? How is it used every day in our lives?
- Are the illustrations & stories within the story helpful in understanding the concepts of electricity?
- What are you learning about electricity through the field trip by the Magic School Bus?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

Use a chart to have the students list in two columns

- vocabulary from the book and how it relates to the various phases of electrical generation
- ways we can learn to understand and respect the power of electricity

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss the topic of electricity in everyday life
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books about reducing food waste, such as [*Electric Power Grid*](#)