

The Green Wizard



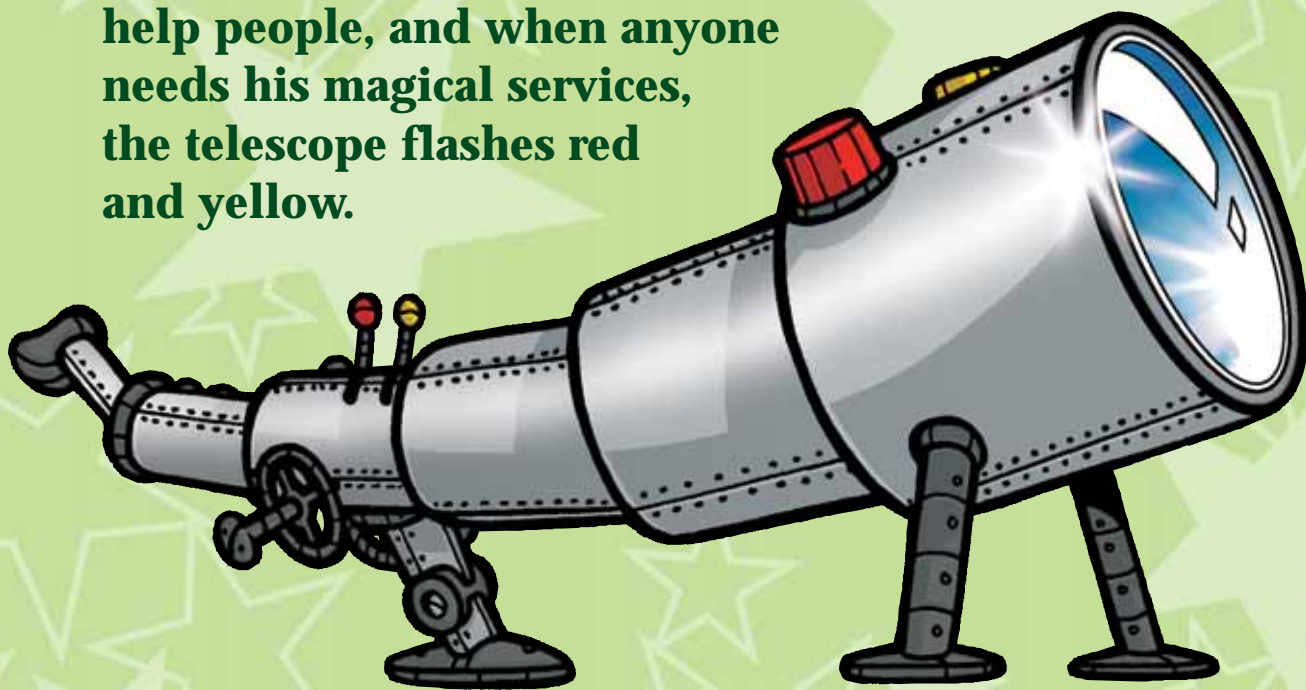
and the
Precious Energy Source



Bertram Geoffrey Chillipepper is a Green Wizard full of energy. With a name like Chillipepper you can bet he's hot stuff.

He lives in a magical castle, near the top of a mystical mountain. His castle is warm, his water is hot and it is always bright and colourful... for the Green Wizard's castle is heated by the rays of the sun.

Bertram Geoffrey Chillipepper, known to his friends as BGC, keeps an eye on the planet Earth through his magic telescope. He loves to help people, and when anyone needs his magical services, the telescope flashes red and yellow.



“It’s such a beautiful place... earth,” sighed the wizard, “But why, oh why do they keep burning coal and oil to make their electricity. Smoke pollutes the air... they’re running out of oil... the planet is slowly dying.



“But there is another way – there’s an energy that can be used again, and again and again. I’ve got a plan... I can help families clean up the planet by making their own energy from the light of the sun and the heat in the air around them. I’m really quite excited!”

Meanwhile, in another castle not so far away in the gloomy land of Carbonous slouched Carlos Hemlock, the wicked warty warlock who wastes everyone’s time and energy. “It’s just a fairy tale,” he hissed, as dirty black smoke curled from his lips with every word.

“Creating your power from sunlight is a joke – what’s the point. I want to burn oil and coal... big clouds of thick smoke... what’s the harm in that?”

The warlock cackled as choking smog filled his castle. His rasping cough echoed round its stony walls. “I hate sunshine... I hate earth... particularly those horrid children!”





One morning, as the sun's rays filled the Green Wizard's comfy castle, the flashing telescope caught his eye.

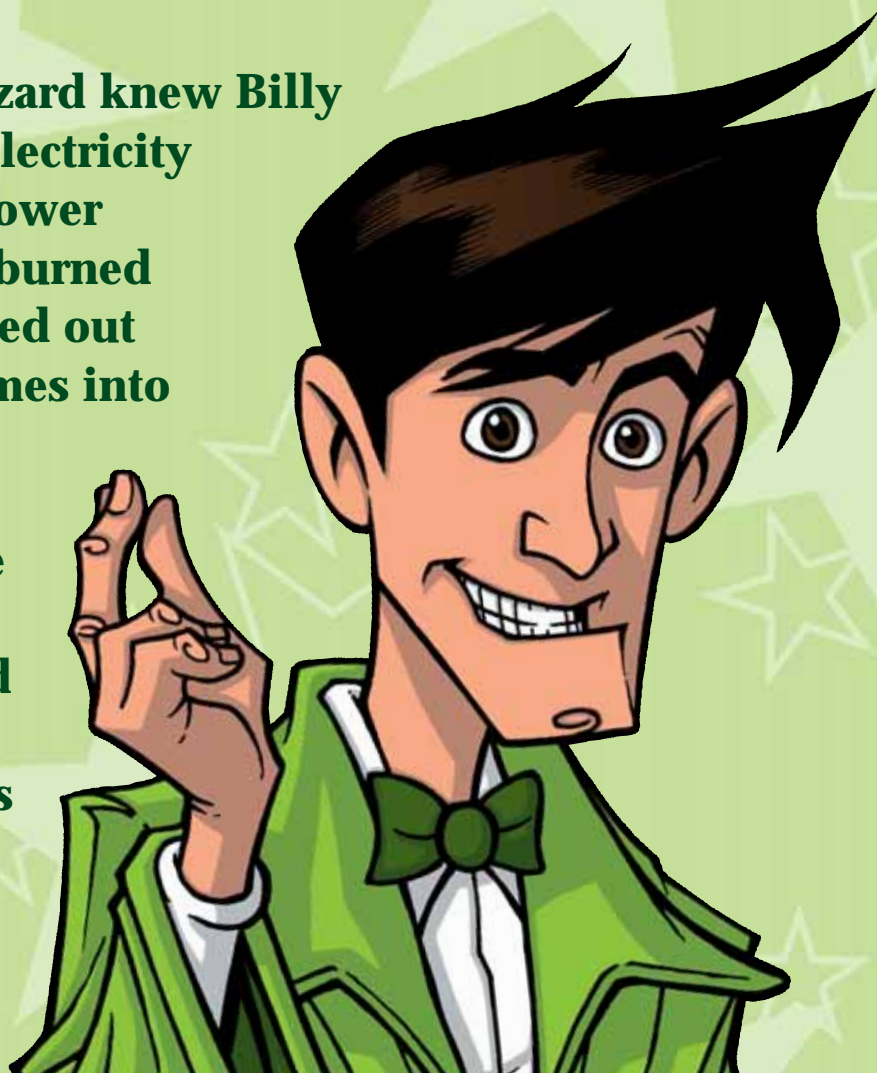
He peeped through the lens and saw brother and sister, Billy and Bethan Cole, sitting at home on a wintery day.

All the lights were on, the TV was blaring with no-one watching, the toaster was smoking and heat was escaping all through the house. Billy and Bethan's dad, Brian, was going nuts.

"The bill's come this morning... energy's costing us a fortune," he exclaimed.

The Green Wizard knew Billy and Bethan's electricity came from a power station which burned coal and belched out smoke and fumes into the air.

"That's not the way it has to be," murmured the wizard, as he snapped his fingers and disappeared.





Billy and Bethan rubbed their eyes and stared in amazement as the Green Wizard appeared in their kitchen.

“All this electricity,” BGC whispered to himself. “Coal-fired power stations, enormous bills and a carbon footprint as big as a giant’s boot.”

“What are you on about?” asked Billy, “Who are you... what are you doing in our kitchen?”

“So sorry,” said the wizard with a smile. “Bertram Geoffrey Chillipepper, the Green Wizard at your service. My friends call me BGC, and I’m here to help.”

“But what can you do – can you cast a spell to cheer up dad?” said Bethan.

“I can do more than that,” said BGC and with a flick of his magic wand he said:

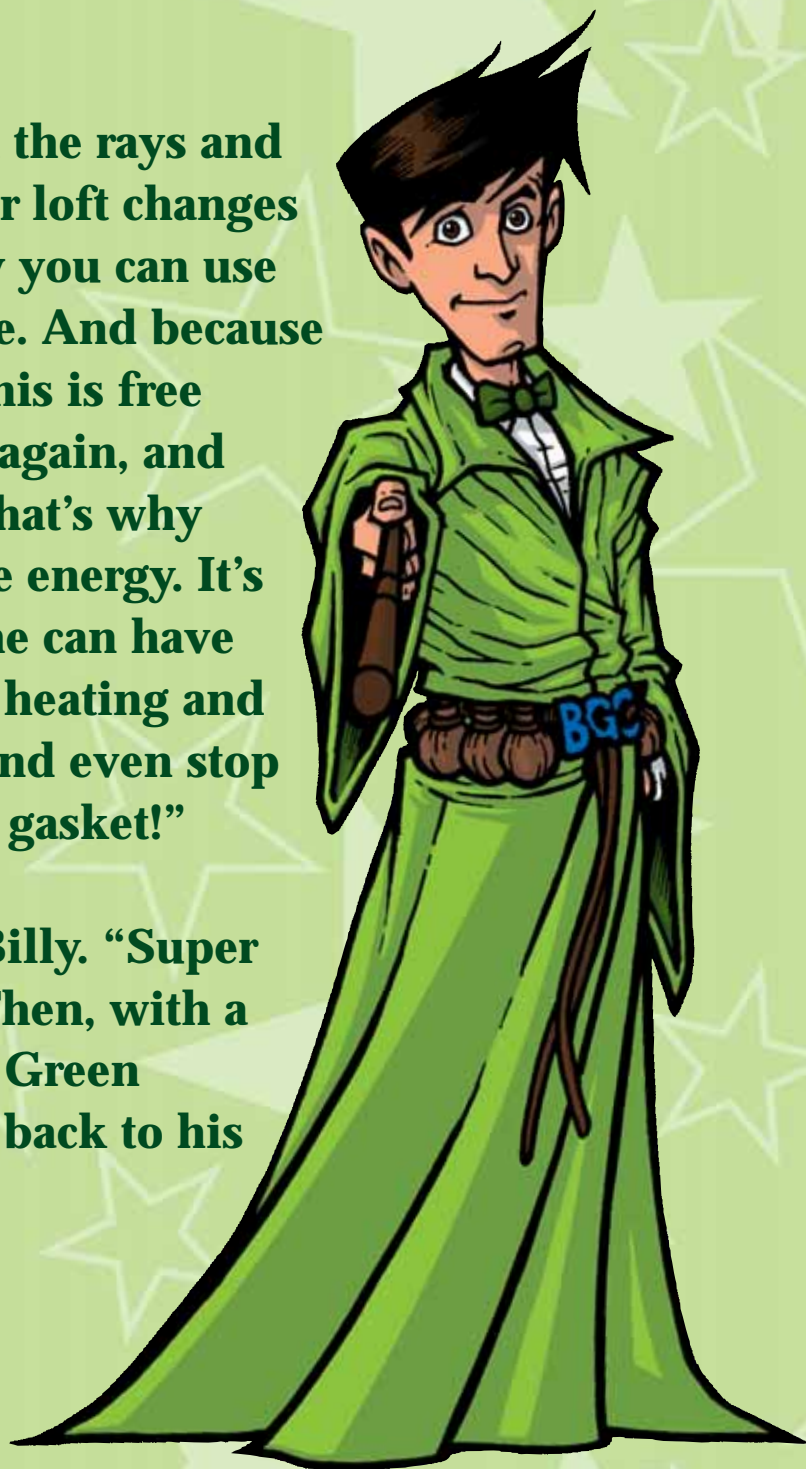
*Abacadabra, one two three
That’s not the way it has to be
The sun can power your house, you see*

Four large solar panels appeared on the roof of the house – pointing towards the sun. “They’re suncatchers,” said the wizard. “You know when the sun shines it makes you feel warm, but you cannot hold on to those rays.

“These panels catch the rays and a special box in your loft changes them into electricity you can use all around the house. And because it’s light everyday this is free energy you can use again, and again and again – that’s why it’s called renewable energy. It’s not magic – everyone can have it. It will keep your heating and power bills low – and even stop your dad blowing a gasket!”

“Super cool,” said Billy. “Super hot!” said Bethan. Then, with a crack and flash, the Green Wizard was gone – back to his castle.

BGC settled down to enjoy a nice cup of tea and slice of his favourite tadpole cheesecake with a scoop of frogspawn ice cream. He was thinking he had to wash his socks – for there are some things even wizards cannot do by magic – when the telescope began smoking and flashing green and black. “Oh no,” exclaimed BGC. “Hemlock’s back!”



Sure enough a peep through the lens confirmed his fears. There was the drab, dreary warlock telling sister and brother Bushra and Rafiq Houssein to crank up the heating from their old gas boiler.

“Forget solar panels – they don’t work,” sneered the warlock. “They don’t save you money and carbon pollution never did anyone any harm.”

Suddenly the Housseins’ living room was lit up by a green flash and a loud crack which made the warlock quiver – and BGC appeared.

“Not you again,” moaned Hemlock. “Clear off and mind your own business – otherwise you’ll go up in smoke.” And he raised his clawed hand as if to cast a spell.

**BGC winked at the children and said:
“I’m here to help – but first
for some pest
control.”**



Then a beam of laser-sharp light shot from the end of the wizard's wand and straight for the warlock's rear end.

“Who says solar power doesn't work now,” laughed BGC as Hemlock sped from the room with sparks flying from his bottom. “We won't be hearing from him for a while... well I hope not.”

The children were still chuckling as the Green Wizard turned, flicked his wand and declared:

*Abacadabra, one two three
That's not the way it has to be
The air can heat your house, you see*

The Housseins' old boiler disappeared and was replaced with a shiny, new heat pump which sucked warmth out of thin air and blew warm air into the house.

“It's like your fridge in reverse,” explained BGC, “I call it a heatgrabber. It will run all day and night, keeping your home toasty warm. Your mum and dad's heating bills will be reduced to the size of a warlock's brain – and I'm talking really small.”

“It's amazing,” cried Bushra and Rafiq. “Pulling heat out of the air – I didn't know you could,” said the little girl.



“Yes – but it’s not magic,” said BGC. “The warmth in the air is there all the time... you can use it again, and again and again. It’s renewable energy... everyone can have it... it’s as easy as calling BGC.”

One hour later, Bertram Geoffrey Chillipepper was snug in the armchair he bought in the sales at Wizard Furniture R Us. He had enjoyed his tea of Toad in the Hole – with a real toad, of course – and began to drift asleep.

He dreamed of a time when everyone would have solar panels and heat pumps at their homes and schools. And the environment of the Green Wizard’s beloved planet Earth would be safe forever.



The Green Wizard

answers your questions:

How does solar power work?

Special panels on the roof collect daylight. I call them suncatchers. A box in your loft changes the sun's rays to electricity. You can use it in your house or give it to other people to use.

What happens when it's cloudy?

Suncatchers still collect the light. Even in cloudy Britain the weather is perfect to use sunlight to make up to half a home's electricity.

What else can solar power do?

A different kind of suncatcher can heat water for baths, washing or heating.

What does a heat pump do?

It pulls warmth from the air, even on a cold day, and uses it to heat a house. Heat can be pulled from under the ground too.

How does renewable energy save money?

Sunlight and the heat in the air and ground are free and are there all the time. You can use them again, and again, and again, so they won't run out. That means if you use renewable energy you don't have to buy as much energy. The government pays people who produce their own energy, and pays them again for any energy they give up for other people to use.

Is there enough solar power for us all?

Enough sunlight falls on the earth in just one hour to power the whole world for a year! It's amazing.

How does it protect the planet if we use solar power again, and again, and again?

Solar power produces no smoke and fumes, so everyone who uses renewable is helping to clean up the environment.





**'We put suncatchers and heatgrabbers
in homes, schools and offices to save
our energy again, again and again'**

Visit the BGC Renewable Training and Education Centre at:
Etruscan Street, Etruria, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 5PQ
Tel: 0800 043 0345 or email: bgcrenewables@bgcltd.com

**The
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