

**Amos Comenius Memorial School  
Hopedale**

**presents**

**Channel “E” News**

**Cast**

Ms. Anderson, Tamara, Jessica	Jessica Flowers
Katie, Rachael Ray, Manager, “The Mob”	Natasha Frieda
Patrick, The Son, The Hunter, Mark	Mark Nochasak
Bettie, Pattie, “The PCBs”	Danika Winters
Nick Newman	Julian Hunter
Susan Smith	Georgia Abel

Teacher-Advisor Benjamin Vatcher

*Watch with Katie and Patrick as they tune into Channel E with Susan Smith and Nick Newman for everything you need to know about energy!*

## Scene 1

### Channel Surfing

*Center stage finds a couple of teenagers watching TV. They are flicking through the channels trying to find something interesting to watch.*

**Katie:** For God's sake, it's like 10 o'clock and there's NOTHING on TV ... it's boring!

**Patrick:** Don't talk about it like that, it's sensitive you know. It's ok, she didn't mean it .. she doesn't know you like I do.

**Katie:** Oh my God, Patrick, seriously, it's just a big electricity-sucking television ... and here we are in the middle of a global energy crisis watching that .. how iconic.

**Patrick:** You mean, I-RON-IC?

**Katie:** Whatever!

**Patrick:** If you watched the learning channel, you'd know the difference between iconic and ironic.

**Katie:** You thought that up all by your little ole lonesome didn't you?

**Patrick:** (smiles proudly) Yep!

**Katie:** *(shakes her head and continues back with the channel surfing)* Boring, boring, seen it, educational - yuck! ... boring ..... HEY LOOK!

**Katie & Patrick:** A blocked channel!

**Katie:** Hey, that's gotta be good, eh!

**Patrick:** Yep and I know how to get past the "security feature" too!

**Katie:** You do?

**Patrick:** Yep, remember last month, when the power went, and the next day the "Newfie News" was back on the programming?

**Katie:** Eww! Don't remind me .. did you see the episode on the "Newfie News" where they kiss cod fish to get "screeched in" or something ... weird.

**Patrick:** Don't remind me ... but anyway, I figure that the power went then and unblocked everything, so if the power goes now, then it'll unblock everything too! And I have the perfect idea! Unplug the satellite receiver!

*(stage goes completely black)*

**Katie:** You unplugged everything didn't you ...

**Patrick:** Uh .. yeah ... and I can't see anything.

**Katie:** Well, hurry it up Patrick, I swear, if a spider crawls on me ... you'll get it...

*(lights come back on and the blocked channel is revealed)*

**Katie & Patrick:** Ohhhhhhhh ... let's watch this!

## Scene 2

### Breaking News

**Nick Newman:** (extremely energetic) Good-night ladies and gentlemen! For those of you just tuning in, I'm Nick Newman and I'm here with Susan Smith for Channel E - the everything-you-need-to-know-about-everything channel!

**Susan Smith:** (extremely tired) Yeah ... (yawns)... that's right ... channel E ... and as usual, bringing you the latest and greatest "live" news. Tonight's big story .... (yawns) the uh ... the uh ... (looks at giant cue card) oh yeah ... the ENERGY crisis ...

*(Susan falls sound asleep)*

**Nick Newman:** That's right ladies and gentlemen, you heard it, we've got an entire evening dedicated to ENERGY ... (stops abruptly..) ... uh hu, uh hu ... WOW! Ladies and gentlemen, just in, breaking news, it seems as if the energy crisis that we have been experiencing lately has been linked to some sort of "white rabbit" ... stay tuned and we'll follow the white rabbit. Let's see just how far the rabbit hole goes!

**Susan Smith:**       *(wakes up briefly)* Dude .. you totally stole that line from the matrix ...

**Nick Newman:**       I don't have a clue what you're talking about! Anyway, our first story for this evening: we're off to the local primary school to interview a junior high student to see how he's getting through this energy crisis.

**Susan Smith:**       Yeah, here comes ...

### Scene 3

#### Junior High

**Rachael Ray:**       Good night ladies and gentlemen, I'm Rachael Ray reporting live from your local junior high school where we have a fine young student standing by ready to tell us where she gets her energy ... Hi there little girl, and what's your name?

**Pattie:**           Pattie ... Pattie Parker. There's two P's in my name .. did you know that?

**Rachael Ray:**       Ha ha .. yep, I bet you that when your mommy used to help you spell your name she was always reminding you not to forget "Two P ... zzz"

**Pattie:**           *(frowns .. not impressed with the lame joke)*

**Rachael Ray:**       *(laughs intently at own joke)* Get it! "Two P's ... Pattie Parker" Ha ha ha. Anyway, cutting to the chase, Pattie, where DO you get your energy during this time of need?

**Pattie:**           *(shrugs her shoulders)* I dunno.

*Long silence.*

**Rachael Ray:**       Come on kid, give me something to work with here, we're live....

**Pattie:**           What .. not my fault .. I don't learn that till Biology next year.... *(silent pause)* ... but I can tell you where my teacher gets his energy! COFFEE and lots of it. He drinks like 8 cups in the morning and then 3 more in the evening. And when he doesn't have his Tim's mug .. look out ... NOTES, and lots of them ...

**Rachael Ray:** Well there you have it folks, teachers get their energy from the magical goodness of coffee .. who knew?

**Pattie:** Oh, and little kids, they get their energy from crackers and cheese.

**Rachael Ray:** *(surprised)* What? Crackers and cheese?

**Pattie:** Yep, crackers and cheese, I knows that because everyday after recess my teacher always shakes his big ole head at those lil' kids and says "Those kids and their crackers".

**Rachael Ray:** So ... how does that confirm that they get their energy from crackers and cheese?

**Pattie:** You clearly haven't been around for third period .. have you ...

**Rachael Ray:** Well ... no actually ... wow, you never know what you're going to learn here with us here on CHANNEL E - the everything-you-need-to-know-about-everything channel. Back to you guys Susan and Nick!

## Scene 4

### Channel E

**Nick Newman:** Well now, what did you think of that Susan.

**Susan Smith:** I think I need a coffee ... do you have any coffee?

**Nick Newman:** Uh, no.

**Susan Smith:** Oh what's the good of you? ... Hey, does anyone know where I can get a coffee? *(gets up and walks off stage in search of a coffee)*

**Nick Newman:** Well ... ok ... random ... anyway, our next story was taped earlier this morning at 7:30 and comes to us all the way from Hopedale, Labrador. With more on the subject, let's go back to Rachael!

## Scene 5

### Kitchen Scene

**Rachael Ray:** Thanks Nick, well as we all know, it's not, well, "recommended" to give coffee to a ten-year-old. But what other options do we have to get our ten-year-olds going in the morning? Well, today we are at the Andersons' house to see how they get their ten-year-old going in the morning. How do you do it, Ms Anderson?

**Ms Anderson:** Well, personally ... I have a wide variety of methods ... the first is to threaten my boy with household chores .. you know... like washing the dishes.

**Rachael Ray:** Chores? Isn't that kinda EXTREME don't you think?

**Ms Anderson:** Whatever works!

**Rachael Ray:** Well, do you think you could give us a demonstration?

**Ms Anderson:** I guess.... it's about time for him to get up anyway .... (*shouts*) MARK! Get your butt up and out of bed right this instant or else you're gonna wash the....

**Son:** I'm up! I'm up! Hi mom, 'bye mom, I'm off to school!

**Rachael Ray:** WOW! That does work! ... But what about if the "dish washing" threats don't work .. what then, what's the next thing that you would do?

**Ms Anderson:** Well, if washing the dishes doesn't work, then I usually wash the dishes myself and then splash him in the face with the dirty water ... you wanna see a ten-year-old come awake in a hurry all you gotta do is hit'm square in the face with a few soggy table scraps and a couple of cold, wet, tea bags ... yessir, it never fails!

**Rachael Ray:** Let that be a message to all you ten-year-olds out there, get up when you're called the first time ... this could be you! (*holding a soggy tea bag*)

## Scene 6

### Channel E

- Susan Smith:** (holding her fresh cup of coffee) Mmm, coffee ...
- Nick Newman:** You completely missed that last story didn't you ... I can't believe you, you're unbelievable.
- Susan Smith:** Yeah yeah, don't have a cow, man, just relax and tell these people what they want to hear.
- Nick Newman:** (*While Nick speaks Susan gets a message in her earpiece*) Oh, they're back ... sorry ladies and gentlemen .. uh yeah, our next story is about the well-known rumour regarding school time-tables and the hidden—now-revealed-- conspiracy regarding gym class and English class! (*interrupted by Susan*)
- Susan Smith:** No, Wait! That story can wait! We've got an update on the energy crisis ... according to our sources, a white rabbit is stealing all our energy and is storing it and planning on selling it back to us at a mark-up! We've got an expert tracker on it right now and apparently we have recent footage of the chase!
- Nick Newman:** Gee ... where'd you get the burst of energy from?
- Susan Smith:** (*holds up her coffee*)
- Nick Newman:** Oh yeah, right, forgot ... ok, let's have a look at this footage. Roll it Rachael!

## Scene 7

### Elmer Fudd

- Hunter :** (*creeps out and tiptoes dramatically across entire stage; to audience:*)SH-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H!  
Hu-uh-uh-uh-uh ... be berry berry quiet, we're

hunting wabbits! .....Come out, come out wherever you are! I'm not gonna hurt you, we just want our energy back, you wascally wabbit you!

*(exits)*

## Scene 8

### Channel E

**Nick Newman:** Wow, thank God it was only a short clip ... geez!

**Susan Smith:** That's our expert tracker.

*(Nick and Susan shake their heads in disbelief)*

**Susan Smith:** Uh, how about we head back to the local high school for that story on the rumour about the huge scam between gym class and English. Rachael, we're all yours!

**Rachael Ray:** *(voice offstage)* Uh, guys, I didn't get the footage at the school ... she refused to get filmed. She said "they'd find out". She said she'd "only come in and do an interview".

*(Tamara walks directly behind Nick and Susan)*

**Susan Smith:** Ok, well, just send her in when she gets here.

**Nick Newman:** *(startled as he notices Tamara standing behind him)* Holy Mac, you're already here... uh, well, why don't you come sit down? Tell us your name and about this "scam" that you've discovered.

**Tamara:** Ok, but first promise that nobody but the three of us will see this.

**Susan Smith:** Yeah ... just the three of us ... right ....

**Tamara:** *Phew* ... the public can't see my face, they can't know that I know ... they'll hunt me down like an animal if they find out!



**Nick Newman:**       *(sarcastically)* Right, you're secret is safe with us! *(huge obvious wink)*  
And besides, I wouldn't worry about being "hunted down" -- everyone's  
too busy "huntin' wabbits" ...

**Tamara:**               Wa? Anyway, it's like this ... it's a scam I tell ya, I don't know if the  
English teachers have finally got to our gym teachers .. they must be  
paying them off or something.

**Nick Newman:**       What do you mean? What are you getting at?

**Tamara:**               Well, have you noticed our time tables? *(hauls out a time table)* Always right  
before English class is GYM. It's a scam I tell you!

**Susan Smith:**       I don't understand ..

**Tamara:**               Can't you see it? It's obvious, the English teacher's have paid off the gym teachers  
to have gym RIGHT before English class. That way they can run us ragged in  
gym class so that we're so tired and exhausted from gym that we don't have  
enough energy to escape the BOOKS! Those hideous evil books!

**Nick Newman:**       I see ... that's your angle on it eh?

**Tamara:**               It's true! They wear us out and then we don't have the strength to fight back.  
They've even designed the desks so that if we fall asleep ... BAM ... we're face  
first into a BOOK, that way its contents are practically branded into our  
foreheads!

**Susan Smith:**       So that's the big scam?

**Tamara:**               Wait! There's more! This goes deeper than that! Look at this ... some of the  
writers are even in on this "**English Gym Amalgamation**"! Oliver TWIST,  
Hoops, Shake-speare! Can't you see! Now they're even putting the "gym" directly  
*into* the "English" ... soon we won't even be able to tell the difference! Before you  
know it, it won't even be gym AND English, it'll just be Gym-ish!

**Susan Smith:**       *(whispers to Nick)* Call security ....

**Nick Newman:**       *(motions to the side of the stage and "security" comes to take Tamara  
away)*

**Tamara:**               You don't believe me? *(jumps up and gasps)* You two are in on it too, aren't you!  
Oh my God! I've gotta get this message out! But how ... Oh I've got it! I'll put it  
on facebook! *(She rushes off the stage, followed by "Security")*

**Susan Smith:**       *(Sarcastically)* O-K ! ... wow ... we're really getting the facts tonight, Nick.

**Nick Newman:**       I'm afraid to look at what's next ... oh thank goodness – the weather ! -- that should be a safe bet! Let's check out the forecast!

## Scene 9

### Weather Forecast

**Bettie:**               Hi, Bettie Broomfield here with an eye on the weather. Well Nick and Susan, my information tells us that there is a 50% chance of rain .. which of course also means a 50% chance of sun. Now, IF the temperature drops below freezing .. then the rain will be frozen giving a 50- 50% chance of either freezing rain or snow.

**Nick Newman:**       Well ... seems like you've got all angles covered with that one ... anything you'd like to add to that?

**Bettie:**               Well, it's funny that you should ask that because I actually do!

**Susan Smith:**       *(sarcastically)* Great....

**Bettie:**               We no longer have to worry about global warming! Yep, that's just one huge energy oversight on our behalf!

**Nick Newman:**       Really ... care to explain ... ?

**Bettie:**               Well, after years and years of intensive study, I have come to the conclusion that since it's GLOBAL warming, and not EARTH warming ... and since we don't live on a "GLOBE" ... we live on earth ... so global warming doesn't even apply to us! As long as we take care of our globes, we should be fine!

**Nick Newman:**       Ok, seriously, I can't handle any more of this ... CUT .. CUT ... go to commercial break ... CUT! We want to speak with the manager!

## Scene 10

### Meet with the Manager

**Manager:** What seems to be the problem, guys?

**Nick Newman:** "What seems to be the problem?" Are you nuts? Have you even been watching this stuff?

**Susan Smith:** Yeah, we are highly trained news broadcasters! We need something better to devote our energy to, than this nonsense!

**Manager:** Energy! Don't you go talking to me about *energy*.... you came in here half asleep tonight!

**Susan Smith:** Yeah, yeah, yeah ... I just needed a coffee to get me started...

**Nick Newman:** Seriously Boss, you can't leave us here hanging out to dry with this stuff ... I mean seriously ... we're fine, we live on earth!

**Susan Smith:** And earlier ... "gym-ish"?

**Nick Newman:** We can't work with this foolishness.

**Manager:** Ok, fine ... look, there are two more big stories tonight that we must cover ... after that, I promise only the best stories for you two. Deal?

**Susan Smith:** Two more stories, huh? ... I guess we can handle that ...

**Nick Newman:** I guess ...

## Scene 11

### The MOB vs the PCBs

**Nick Newman:** Ok, we're back ladies and gentlemen, we apologize on behalf of Channel E for that miscommunication on global warming, I wouldn't forget about global warming quite yet ...

**Susan Smith:** We're gonna cut right to our next story which comes to you directly from our independent research lab in Happy Valley. Without saying anything else I give you our research experts Jessie James and Mark Mays!

**Jessie:** Thanks, guys. Well, I'm gonna cut right to the chase ... our research shows that we should join the MOB and use fewer PCB's ... you probably already knew that PCB's weren't good to eat right? DUH! But I bet you didn't know how good the MOB is for you! *(pause)*

**Nick Newman:** Oh great ... here comes another "ground breaking story"

**Mark:** Wait a minute ... does anyone have a clue what we're talking about? You know .. ....PCB's! *(pause)*

**Jessie:** Not Polychlorinated Biphenyls, for God's sake people, where do you get it from?... come on ... PCB's ... Pop, Chips, Bars.

**Susan Smith:** *(strange expression comes over her face)* What? Where are they going with this?

**Mark:** Our research shows us that while the energy obtained from PCB's - Pop, chips, bars - does last for a little while, but eventually ... it fades!

**Jessie:** That's right - suddenly, you come crashing down! BUT! The energy from the MOB is much stronger and lasts way longer!

**Mark:** They probably don't even know what the MOB is .... any ideas? *(shakes his head)* .... MILK ORANGES and BANANAS .. come on, get with the program!

**Jessie:** I think the only way they'll understand is through a "slow motion dramatization"

**Mark:** Oh, they're my favourite!

*(PCB and MOB enter the scene)*

**Jessie:** Ok, on the left we've got PCB's and on the right we've got the MOB.

*(Both groups flex muscles and show off their energy)*

**Mark:** Right, so right now they seem pretty even, but we're going to put them in a head to head battle!

**Jessie:** Ready, set, pull! *(the tug of war begins at normal speed)* So far they are pulling about even, Mark!

**Mark:** Look, the PCB's are taking the lead!

**Jessie:** Ok, quick, put it in slow motion! We should be able to see the exact moment where the PCB's run out of steam ...

*(They watch the dramatization anxiously; suddenly the PCB's run out of steam and the MOB clearly pulls them over)*

**Jessie:** Did you see it? Wow! Well, what more do we need to say other than stop using PCB's!

**Mark:** Back to you, Susan and Nick!

## Scene 12

### Final story

**Nick Newman:** Wow, that actually wasn't that bad!

**Susan Smith:** No, not at all, I can actually say that last one made a bit of sense!

**Nick Newman:** How about we get this last story done and we call it a night!

**Susan Smith:** Sounds like a plan!

**Nick Newman:** Our final story of the night is the conclusion to the energy crisis that we have been following throughout the evening ... apparently our expert tracker has tracked down this "white rabbit" and has solved the problem with our energy crisis!

**Susan Smith:** Come on, it's the studio Tracker! Let's hear the story!

**Hunter:** *(walks onstage)* Well, as you saw on the tape that I sent in earlier, the energy crisis all leads to the same source .. THE WHITE RABBIT ... the bunny was stealing all of our energy and cramming it into batteries!

**Susan Smith:** Rabbits and batteries ... do you mean the Energizer Bunny?

**Hunter:** Sort of ... this was the *evil* Energizer Bunny .. with wings and everything ... I can only guess that he had too many Red Bulls ... hence the wings ... but ironically they led to his own destruction.

**Susan Smith:** *(sarcastically)* Oh yeah ... how?

**Hunter:** Well, he was flying around and I guess he wasn't watching where he was going and struck a power-line ... and you know how that ended ... let's just say that he *overcharged his battery!*

**Nick Newman:** Wow ... that's ridiculous.

**Susan Smith:** And to think that the boss said that he had good material for us...

**Nick Newman:** This makes me wanna just quit.

**Susan Smith:** Want to?

**Nick Newman:** Come on, let's go, let's quit right now ...

**Susan Smith:** Let's quit!

**Nick Newman:** Ok .. ok .. Breaking news ladies and gentlemen ... **we quit!**

**Susan Smith:** See-ya!

*(They both slam their headsets down and storm out leaving the Hunter alone on stage .. he then walks slowly to the middle of the stage)*

**Hunter:** Hu-uh-uh-uh-uh ... I guess that's all folks! *(waves)*

***CURTAIN***