



LifeSmarts

Celebrating 25 Years!

February 1, 2019

Dear LifeSmarts Coach:

Congratulations on your team's victory in the state LifeSmarts competition! You and your team are invited to participate in the National LifeSmarts Championship, April 13-16, 2019, in Orlando, FL. This year, we are celebrating 25 years of educating teens to be smart, confident consumers! We expect to have strong competition and a lot of fun!

LifeSmarts is a fun, educational event in which everyone learns, expands their experiences and opportunities, meets new friends, and explores a new area of the country. As a coach, you play an important role to ensure that your team members enjoy and benefit from the experience. This packet of information will help you prepare for the national event. Please read everything carefully. If you have questions, please let us know.

Conference Calls for Coaches:

Prior to the national competition, we will host two conference calls to answer questions for coaches. The same information will be covered in both calls, so plan to join us for one of the calls. **For both calls, dial 1-888-585-9008, and the pass code is 310-237-369#.** Dates for the calls are:

- Wednesday, March 13, at 5:00 p.m. EDT *OR* Tuesday, March 19, at 3:00 p.m. EDT

Items included in this packet:

Action Items	Page	Deadline
Review National Information and Draft Agenda	3 – 9	Now
Complete online Team Registration for Nationals	2	March 16
Make Hotel Reservation	3	March 20
Join Coach Conference Call	1	March 13 or 19
Plan Competition One and create PSA, take TeamSmarts	15-16	March 29, April 5
Review Special Opportunities in 2019, including a new privacy essay contest, the Safety Smart project, and more	10-14	Various

Good luck as you prepare for the 2019 National LifeSmarts Championship. We look forward to welcoming you to Orlando!

Lisa Hertzberg
Program Director, LifeSmarts
651-699-3650
lisah@nclnet.org



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Team Registration:

You must complete the online registration form for the 2019 National LifeSmarts Championship to ensure your team's place at the competition. **The deadline is March 16, 2019.**

Please visit <https://lifesmarts.org/nationals-orlando-team-registration/> to register yourself and your team.

You will be unable to return to the online registration form, so please have the following information ready to complete your registration:

- Your complete contact information, including cell phone number and email address
- Complete contact information for the team's assistant coach, including cell phone number and email address
- Complete contact information for the school or organization your team represents
- Correctly spelled names or preferred names of all players
- Contact name and phone number of a guardian for all players
- Which topic assessment each player will take at Nationals (Each student must take an individual category assessment)
- Hotel reservation numbers
- Special accommodations and dietary needs request
- Monday afternoon fun activity preference
- Tuesday awards luncheon preference for guests traveling with your team

Please collect all of this information and have it ready prior to registration. Contact Chantal Spruill (chantals@nclnet.org) if you have questions about registration.

Registration must be completed by March 16, 2019.



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Orlando, Florida **April 13-16, 2019**

Information about the National LifeSmarts Championship

Dates of the National LifeSmarts Competition:

Saturday, April 13 – Tuesday, April 16, 2019

When to Arrive:

A **mandatory** coaches and captains' meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Plan to arrive with ample time to register and get to this meeting.

When to Depart:

Players must attend the awards luncheon on Tuesday to receive their prizes and awards. The awards banquet will be over by 1:00 p.m. Plan your travel accordingly.

Hotel Reservations:

All teams should stay at the **B Resort and Spa**. All competitions and LifeSmarts activities will take place at the hotel.

Host Hotel:

B Resort and Spa

1905 Hotel Plaza Blvd

Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

Phone: (407) 828-2828

<https://www.bhotelsandresorts.com/b-resort-and-spa>

To Book a Reservation:

Guests can access the web site to learn more about the event and to book, modify, or cancel reservations through 8 p.m. EDT **March 20, 2019**.

- Link to Book:
<https://res.windsurfercrs.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=14265&nights=1&checkin=04/11/2019&group=1904NATION>
- Group Rate: \$175/night + taxes
- The hotel resort fee is waived for our group; and in-room Internet is included free of charge

Travel Arrangements:

Each team is responsible for making its own travel arrangements. Your state coordinator may be able to assist you with this.

Transportation:

Orlando International Airport (MCO) offers direct flights to many major cities around North America.

Ground Transportation:

To get teams from the Orlando airport to the hotel, the B Resort is providing a complimentary shuttle van for our group on our arrival day. We will send details to coaches as we get closer.

- **You will be responsible for arranging your own transportation back to the airport at the end of the event.**

Other Ground Transportation Options

Super Shuttle, cabs, Lyft, and Uber, or renting a vehicle, are all options to get around Orlando.

Parking

- Overnight parking at the hotel—**\$5/night** with in and out privileges

Coach's Responsibilities:

Each team member under age 18 must be under the supervision of an adult coach at all times. The coach is the official chaperone of the team and is responsible for overseeing the behavior and activities of all students and any guests. Coaches are role models for the team.

Teams:

The teams are comprised of the registered players and coaches who participated in their state competitions or won Wild Card bids. **Substitutions of new players are not permitted.** Four team members must be available to play at all times. Failure to have at least four team members ready to compete may result in disqualification.

Captains:

The captain of each team is the team leader and spokesperson. The captain will be assigned special leadership duties and is responsible for getting the team to all events on time. The captain's role will be discussed at the coaches and captains' meeting on Saturday.

Competition Format:

Each team has an equal opportunity to advance to the semi-finals and finals on Tuesday morning. All teams will compete seven times (three head-to-head matches and four written assessments or team activities) and team scores will be cumulative through competition mid-morning Monday. The top 16 teams will advance to the round of 16; once teams reach the round of 16 they must win to advance. The competition format will also be explained in further detail during the coach calls (see details on Page 1), and during the coach and captain meeting at orientation. See Page 9 for more information.

Remember – your team represents the entire state, not just your school or organization. Come prepared to participate at this level.

Review of Rules:

During the coach and captain meeting you will have the opportunity to ask for clarification about rules or procedures. **The League reserves the right to change the rules at the national event.**

Rulings of Officials:

Students will have a limited opportunity to challenge open-ended questions using challenge procedures at nationals. Our officials are experts in consumer-related fields, and volunteer their time to serve as officials at the national event. The ruling of the head official is final.

Attendance:

All competitors and coaches are expected to attend all competitions and scheduled events. Each team member and coach is required to complete the [online Team Agreement form](#). Failure to attend any competition or event will result in disqualification of the entire team and forfeiture of all prizes, awards and recognition.

Timing:

Please see the draft agenda attached to this memo. A final agenda will be distributed at registration and through the conference app. All events and competitions will begin as scheduled. Failure to be on time may be grounds for disqualification.

Meals:

All meals listed on the agenda are included and free of charge for you and your team. These include: dinner Saturday evening, breakfast and lunch on Sunday, breakfast on Monday, and breakfast and lunch on Tuesday. A meal request form to purchase guest tickets for Tuesday's awards lunch will be sent to coaches in March. We will follow-up with additional details.

Monday Activities:

On Monday afternoon LifeSmarts participants will have the chance to visit a theme park. LifeSmarts' sponsors will underwrite a portion of the ticket price, but teams should expect to pay about \$50 per ticket. More information will be shared with teams in March. Doing your own thing that afternoon is also an option.

Team Photos:

Team photos will be taken on Saturday. Teams are asked to follow the schedule that will be provided. You may bring props that represent your state or school to use for the team photos.

Sister Teams:

Each team will be assigned a "sister" team to enhance mingling and cooperation among the teams. Please bring simple gift items for the members of your sister team. The gifts should be a reminder of your team and your state and should be very inexpensive (or free) items. Spend time on creativity rather than spending money. The gifts will be presented to your sister team at dinner on Saturday night.

Other Teams:

After all state competitions are complete, a list of other teams and their members will be provided to you. This may help if you wish to contact another coach regarding sharing rooms.

Tell Us About Your Team:

NCL is inviting captains to submit a team profile with a brief paragraph article about their team for the LifeSmarts Web site and our social media pages. We enjoy getting to know teams before meeting at Nationals! Complete this form on the LifeSmarts website to submit your team's profile: <https://lifesmarts.org/nationals-team-profile/>

Be creative! Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Describe the competition – how difficult were the questions? Were there any nail-biting moments? How did you prepare?
- Have you been to state (or nationals) before? Any returning teammates?
- Tell us about your coach or how your team was formed. Are you affiliated with a school?

- Any fun stories about preparing for competition or fundraising for Nationals?
- Why did you get involved with LifeSmarts?
- What are you most looking forward to doing in Orlando?
- What's the best thing you've learned so far by competing in LifeSmarts?
- Can you tell us something interesting about your home state or school?

Submissions are due March 22, 2019. Don't forget to submit a team photo! Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#) to read the profiles of the 2019 state champions!

Behavior:

LifeSmarts is a great program because each person does his or her part to make it fun, safe and educational. Each participant is expected to be on his or her best behavior at all times. The League reserves the right to remove a player or participant at any point in the program for inappropriate behavior. The participant will be responsible for making their immediate arrangements to travel home at the participant's expense and will forfeit prizes and awards.

Any damage to the hotel and/or surrounding environment by any participant or guest will be the responsibility of that individual. Coaches are responsible for checking the status of players' sleeping rooms.

Please review with your team proper behavior and safety procedures when traveling. You may wish to cover such things as guarding your luggage, hotel safety, emergency exits, personal safety in a new environment, and curfews (if you plan to impose one), and other important consumer tips.

Team T-shirt Contest:

This competition is optional. Teams that wish to enter the contest should prepare T-shirts that include the LifeSmarts name and logo and whatever else they wish that is related to the competition. Please, no corporate logos on the T-shirts. Teams are asked to bring one shirt that may be given to the judges. Judging will be done during the event.

Team Shirt Competition Criteria:

- The team shirts should:
 - Show artistic talent
 - Say "LifeSmarts" and demonstrates LifeSmarts in some way
 - Use original artwork
 - Be a prototype for future national LifeSmarts t-shirt designs (some alterations may be necessary for those shirts including a state name)
- When you register, your team members will be asked to complete a form answering the following questions:
 - How was the design developed?
 - How does the design demonstrate "LifeSmarts"?
 - What do they feel is most important about their design?
- In addition, all participants will be asked to vote for their favorite T-shirt, and there will be a "People's Choice" award.



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DRAFT AGENDA FOR NATIONALS 2019; As of February 1, 2019

February 1-March 29

Competition 1: Lithium ion battery PSA; teams may apply for travel stipends, and students may apply for project scholarships

February 1 - April 1

Safety Smart Ambassador project launches, teams may earn travel stipends, and students may apply for LifeSmarts Safety Smart scholarships

Saturday, April 13

Noon – 5:00 p.m.

Registration

Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Team Photos

4:00 p.m.

Coach and Captain Orientation

5:00 p.m.

Welcome Orientation

5:30 p.m.

Competition 2: Sister Team Activity

6:30 p.m.

Dinner with Sister Teams

7:30 p.m.

Internet Teams Orientation

8:15 p.m.

Student Advisory Board

Sunday, April 14

8:00 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Registration

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

7:45 – 8:45 a.m.

Officials' Orientation for Speed Smarts

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Competition 3: Team Activity Speed Smarts

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

Competition 4: Individual Assessments

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

Officials' Orientation for Buzzer Matches

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

Coach's Meeting

Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:45 – 4:30 p.m.

Competitions 5 and 6: Team Buzzer Rounds

Monday, April 15

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Registration

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

7:30 – 8:15 a.m.

Officials' Orientation

8:30 a.m.

Competition 7: Team Buzzer Rounds

9:45 – 10:30 a.m.

LifeSmarts 25th Birthday party! Refreshment, Round of 16 announced

10:30 a.m.

Competition 8: Round of 16 or Last Smartie Standing

11:30 a.m.

Quarterfinal Matches

12:15 p.m.

Orientation for Semi-Finalists

Afternoon

Visit a theme park or time on your own to explore Orlando

Tuesday, April 16

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

9:00 a.m.

Semi-final Competitions

10:30 a.m.

National LifeSmarts Championship

11:45 a.m.

Awards Lunch

1:00 p.m.

Adjourn



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The National LifeSmarts Championship Format

Goals:

- All teams compete at least eight times
- NCL conducts an engaging competition that is academically rigorous
- Individual students are recognized for high achievement

National Championship Format:

- *Pre-competition: Creating a PSA*
 - Before nationals, teams will use the UL XPLORLABS materials on lithium ion batteries to produce a :30 second PSA and take a 20-question TeamSmarts assessment
- *Sister Team Competition*
 - Sister teams collaborate on a technology activity
- *Team Activity Speed Smarts*
 - Teams meet 10 experts, completing 10 short activities in 75 minutes
- *Individual Assessments*
 - Team members work independently, with each team member taking a different LifeSmarts topic assessment
 - Students answer 100 questions plus a tie-breaker in one hour
 - Students may not repeat topics taken previously at nationals
 - Recognition will be given to the top-scoring student in each topic area
- *Live buzzer competitions*
 - All teams compete twice Sunday and at least once Monday
 - All matches are head-to-head
 - Sunday matches consist of team-link and challenge questions
 - Sunday matches consist of lightning and challenge questions

- Round of 16 and quarterfinals consist of team-link, lightning and challenge questions
- Team activities are added for the semifinal and final matches
- Last Smartie Standing
 - Teams not advancing to the Round of 16 compete in a fast-paced, spelling bee format for top honors and recognition

Other Enhancements:

- Point totals are cumulative through seven competitions
 - Top 16 teams advance to the Round of 16
 - Teams will be seeded
 - After reaching the Round of 16 teams must win to advance
- Teams may challenge answers
 - Once during each match a team may challenge a question and have it replaced with another question
 - New questions are open to the person(s) or team(s) that the original question was available to
- Multiple-choice questions are reserved for written assessments and will not be used in live competition
- Scholarships will be awarded to members of top teams
- Scholarships will be awarded to the student scoring the highest in each topic area
- Prizes will be awarded to the top students in the Last Smartie Standing activity
- Coaches may be nominated by their students for the LifeSmarts Coach of the Year award
- Coaches may nominate a student for the Student of the Year award



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Special Opportunities in 2019

LifeSmarts strives to offer unique experiences to participants each year. Encourage your students to take advantage of these opportunities to gain recognition and awards, and expand their knowledge about real-world consumer issues.

1. Write a winning essay about privacy and win a post-secondary scholarship. Honorable mentions receive gift cards. *See Pages 11-12*
2. Enter the LifeSmarts essay contest and tell us why you love LifeSmarts! Three winning essay writers win gift cards. *See Page 13*
3. Become a Safety Smart Ambassador and earn travel stipend funds for your team, and submit a scholarship application to earn one of five \$1,000 scholarships. *See Page 14*
4. Pilot a new fraud program with older adults in your community and become eligible for additional travel stipend money. Contact Emily Stevenson if you are interested: stevenson@fairpoint.net.
5. Enter the LifeSmarts social media competition to win gift cards. Details coming soon in the weekly Orlando update!



Scholarship Opportunity: Write a Winning Essay about Privacy

**New opportunity for students competing in the National LifeSmarts Championship:
Write a winning essay on privacy and win a \$2,000 scholarship from ITRC**

LifeSmarts partners with [Identity Theft Resource Center \(ITRC\)](#) to help students and educators understand their online footprint, how to guard their privacy, what data is being shared through their devices and social media accounts, and what to do when faced with identity theft or data breaches.

What exactly is privacy?

Privacy means different things to different people. Most consumers have an expectation that they are in control of what they share about themselves – and with whom they share it – both in the real world and online; however, *many are sharing more than they think and without fully understanding the consequences.*

Step One: Take quizzes on the ID Theft Help app

ITRC's free app, ID Theft Help, provides information about identity theft, and lets consumers connect with one of ITRC's victim advisors who can walk them through their specific ID theft situation. Students will use the app to take two quizzes: the [Identity Theft Quiz](#) and the [Privacy Quiz](#).

1. Students will download the free ID Theft Help app from the Google Play Store or Apple App store. <https://www.idtheftcenter.org/itrcapp/>.
2. Students will take the Identity Theft Quiz and the Privacy Quiz. Students must take screenshots of both scores.
3. **Students must submit both screenshots to LifeSmarts by March 15.**

Step Two: Write an essay about privacy

Write an essay of no more than 500 words that answers this question:

What does privacy mean to you, and what steps do you take to protect your privacy?

The student writing the winning essay will win a \$2,000 post-secondary scholarship from ITRC and CyberScout. Five additional students will win Honorable Mentions and receive \$100 gift cards.

Judging rubric

An independent panel of judges will evaluate essays using the following criteria:

- inclusion of personal experiences and/or examples, especially those that changed a student's views about privacy, or made the student take steps to secure their privacy (15 points)
- readability and clarity (5 points)
- spelling and grammar (5 points)

Timeline

Submit essays and screenshots of both quiz scores between March 1-15, 2019, at LifeSmarts.org. (More information will be shared with coaches in the weekly Orlando updates.)

The winning student and honorable mentions will be announced in Orlando. The winning student will be asked to read their essay during the lunch on Sunday, April 14.

More information:

Visit: <https://idtheft.center/LifeSmarts>



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Share your LifeSmarts story with us!

Essay contest features prizes; deadline March 29

LifeSmarts students demonstrate their consumer skills every day, and sometimes without even realizing it! And we want to hear your story. How has LifeSmarts impacted you? LifeSmarts is launching its 2019 essay contest by asking one simple question: What was your favorite LifeSmarts moment, and why is it important to you? Tell us in 250 words or less, and you could win a \$100 Visa card just for sharing your LifeSmarts story. Winning entries will include an essay reflecting on your LifeSmarts experience.

WHO: Any student in grades 6-12 who has registered as a player this year

WHAT: A 250-word essay

DEADLINE: Essays must be submitted before 11:59 PM Eastern on **March 29, 2019**

WHERE: Essays must be submitted online at the LifeSmarts website. **Use this form to submit your entry:** <https://lifesmarts.org/essay-contest/>.

PRIZES: Essays will be judged by a panel of LifeSmarts staff. Up to four winning essay writers will receive Visa gift cards up to \$100. Winners will be notified by Memorial Day.

QUESTIONS: Use the "Contact Us" form (<https://lifesmarts.org/about-us/contact-us>) if you have any questions.

Travel Stipend and Scholarship Opportunity: Become a Safety Smart Ambassador



LifeSmarts partners with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) to provide teens with a chance to focus on health and safety curriculum while giving back through community service.

We give you everything you need: the presentations, the lesson plans, the worksheets, and videos featuring Timon and Pumbaa from Disney's *The Lion King*. You take it from there – you get to present the fun, entertaining content to kids ages 4-10, and you can use it to fulfill community service requirements you may have.

Prizes, Scholarships and Travel Stipends

Special prizes, scholarships and travel stipends are available to teams that attend the 2019 National LifeSmarts Championship:

- Teams that conduct five or more Safety Smart presentations are eligible to earn a travel stipend for their team. Stipends will range from \$500 to \$1,000. *Twenty travel stipends available.*
- Students may earn \$1,000 scholarships for post-secondary education by submitting a PowerPoint documenting their experience presenting Safety Smart lessons. *At least five scholarships awarded to students attending Nationals.*

Learn More

All materials are available on the LifeSmarts Web site: <https://lifesmarts.org/resources-2/safety-smart/>

Contact Emily Stevenson, stevenson@fairpoint.net, to set up a phone consultation to help you get started.



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Competition 1: Lithium ion battery PSA activity and TeamSmarts assessment

Teams attending the National LifeSmarts Championship will participate in their first competition before arriving on-site. Teams will produce a 30-second video Public Service Announcement (PSA) to educate their communities about button cell battery use, risks, and hazards for small children. Teams will also take a special 20-question TeamSmarts assessment about batteries and other safety issues. This activity is worth up to 140 points.

This event challenges creativity, promotes teamwork, and requires use of the latest technologies.

PSA scoring will be done by a panel of judges who will use the rubric on Pages 13-14. Teams will earn 1 point for each question answered correctly in the TeamSmarts assessment.

Teams will:

- Use the UL XPLORLABS and LifeSmarts resources provided to educate themselves about button cell batteries and the risks and hazards they pose to young children.
- Create the video using whatever technology you have available; this includes cell phones, iPads, digital editing tools, and digital cameras. Purchasing equipment solely to complete this video should not be necessary.
- The LifeSmarts judging team purposely designed this activity to be open-ended. Use your imagination and creativity to construct a memorable video with a valuable message for others. The video can be anything from humorous to instructional or dramatic.
- As a team you are responsible for using content appropriate for all viewing ages. Inappropriate content such as profanity will result in disqualification. If in doubt, leave it out.
- Plagiarism is not allowed. Do not use music or other copyrighted materials without direct approval from the person or organization that holds the copyright. You will be asked to verify this approval.
- Create a 30-second video PSA and upload it to the LifeSmarts web site by March 29.
- Take the TeamSmarts lithium ion battery assessment between March 25 and April 5. This will be available to your captain but is a team activity.

Project Background

LifeSmarts is partnering with UL to educate consumers about the uses, risks, and hazards of lithium ion batteries. This multi-year project also provides opportunities for team travel stipends and student scholarships.

Use the LifeSmarts Web site to learn more: <http://lifesmarts.org/lithium-ion-batteries>.

Competition 1: Lithium Ion Battery Video PSA Rubric

Teams will make a 30-second video Public Service Announcement (PSA) about button cell battery use, risks, and hazards for small children.

State Team _____

Team Score _____/120

DESCRIPTOR	POINTS			
	20-19-18-17-16	15-14-13-12-11	10-9-8-7-6	5-4-3-2-1-0
Concept / Objectives	Educational purpose and objectives are clearly stated at the beginning.	Educational purpose and objectives stated.	Educational purpose and objectives are not clearly stated.	Educational purpose and objectives are unclear and not stated directly.
Content / Vocabulary	Content/vocabulary is appropriate. Concept and objectives are clearly and accurately defined and illustrated. Video provides educational reference material of value beyond the LifeSmarts Competition. No copyrighted music, video or images included.	Content/vocabulary clearly and accurately defined, demonstrates understanding. Video provides educational value beyond the LifeSmarts Competition. No copyrighted music, video or images included.	Content not always clearly stated or accurate; lacks supporting information. Video has value for LifeSmarts Competition. No copyrighted music, video or images included	Content is inaccurate, incomplete or confusing. Video has limited educational value. Contains copyrighted music, video or images.
Creativity / Delivery	Creativity and original delivery enhance the content and objectives. The audience's attention and curiosity is captured.	Creative element included and does not distract or enhance the content delivery. The audience is engaged.	Lacks creativity or creative elements distract from content and objectives. The audience is indifferent to presentation.	Design and delivery is not original. Audience is not engaged.
Organization	Logically organized, well ordered to teach concept.	Organized, information supports theme. Video	Somewhat organized, the content is	Lacks organization and logical sequencing of

	All information presented directly relates to a theme. Video is 30 seconds long.	is within 5 seconds of required 30-second length.	sometimes disconnected from the theme. Video is within 10 seconds of required 30-second length	information. Theme is not obvious. Video is more than 10 seconds too short or too long.
Technical “slack time” excess dead time	Entire video is focused and well framed. There is no slack time and the audio is easily understood.	Most of the video is focused and well framed. There is little slack time and audio is understood.	Some of the video is not focused. Edits needed to remove slack time and/or audio is unclear in places.	Video production distracts from message. Slack time interrupts the message and/or audio is unclear.
Call to Action	The PSA inspires and motivates people to take action.	The PSA provides an action people can take.	The PSA hints at action people can take.	There is no discernable call to action.

Resources for Competition 1:

- UL’s XPLORLABS Portable Electrical Power module: <https://ulxplorlabs.org/portable-electrical-power/>
- UL’s XPLORLABS Educator Guide (The Bologna Test): https://ulxplorlabs.org/portable-electric-power/build/pdf/Investigation1_Teacher_Guide.pdf
- UL’s XPLORLABS Student Guide (The Bologna Test): https://ulxplorlabs.org/portable-electric-power/build/pdf/Investigation1_Student_Guide.pdf
- LifeSmarts materials: <http://lifesmarts.org/lithium-ion-batteries>
- Media stories
- Additional web sites