POWER IN MOTION
After Nano makes a daring rescue at a construction site for sustainable buildings, it gets Constance thinking about ways we use energy - and gives her an amazing idea for a project that can help people be more green!

Plus, learn more about SWENext, a way for students to become part of The Society of Women Engineers, the world's largest advocate and catalyst for change for women in engineering and technology!

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WHAT'S THAT?

IT'S GOING TO FALL!

LOOK! IT'S NANO!
NANO: That was incredible! Thank goodness you were here.

HEY CONSTANCE, I didn’t know you were volunteering for this project.

WHO BUILT YOUR SUITS, NANO?

ACTUALLY BUILT THE SUITS MYSELF AND YOu can see there are very fine solar scales sewn into the fabric.

WHOA.

THE SCALES HARNESSE SOLAR ENERGY AND RE-DIRECT IT INTO MY OTHER SUIT FUNCTIONS.

YEAH, I’m really into sustainable engineering. It feels like the future, you know.

I totally agree...it’s certainly the future if we hope to have a long one.

I’VE BEEN WORKING ON SOMETHING THAT COULD HELP WITH SUSTAINABILITY.

NO, I haven’t come up with anything yet. It feels like all the good green ideas already exist!

THERE’S EVEN THIS NEW TECHNOLOGY CALLED AEROPONICS WHICH ARE VERTICAL GARDENING THAT DON’T USE SOIL, WATER, OR SUNLIGHT. CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT?

WELL, DON’T GIVE UP JUST YET. I KNOW YOU’LL COME UP WITH SOMETHING.

THAT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA, MAYBE I’LL LOOK INTO IT?

OH MY GOD, NANO, I JUST GOT THE IDEA FOR MY PROJECT!
AND FOOTBALL TO HOCKEY TRADE THE KINETIC ENERGY AND POWER THEM STREET LIGHTS.

THERE HASN'T BEEN MUCH DEVELOPMENT WITH KINETIC ENERGY, BUT IT'S ALL BEEN FOCUSED IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE, BUT IT'S A GREAT IDEA, CONSTANCE.

HAHAHA!
It’s a prototype for capturing kinetic energy in your home to power small devices like lamps, radios, and even your phone.

The idea is to capture the energy you naturally expend just living your life so that nothing goes to waste.

And while initially expensive to install, especially if you installed an entire floor, over time it would not only save you money by being free energy, but it’s a perfect green energy source, and it’s obviously sustainable.

Of course, my mom is jumping up and down to power this because we don’t have lots of time, but the idea is that the natural movement you do is the power source.

It’s also perfect for use in case of loss of power or natural disasters situations where you might not have access to power for extended periods of time.

This is excellent, how did you come up with this idea, Constance?

Actually, Nano, you gave me the idea. Well, you and Elevators.

No, I was helping to build sustainable urban housing.

How flattering!

Well, they were implementing a lot of great ideas already with rooftop gardens and rainwater and grey water catchers. And of course, harnessing solar power for the building. And then even had new elevators that recycled usable energy.

But I couldn’t stop thinking about all the energy that we were expending to build the house, and how it too should be harnessed instead of wasted.

And when you saved those construction workers on site from a falling beam, I thought how much energy you must expend to do that.

You were already harnessing the sun to power your suit, but it just seemed obvious that you should also be trying to harness your own energy.

That’s very clever!
IT’S VERY CLEVER. IN FACT, I THINK I’LL TRY TO IMPLEMENT SOMETHING LIKE THIS MYSELF FOR MY NEW SUIT. I COULD ALWAYS USE MORE POWER.

REALLY? WOULD YOU MIND?

ARE YOU KIDDING? I WOULD BE HONORED!

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We want to give a special thanks to the following UTC engineers for their help in shaping the adventures of Constance and Nano in issue #3!

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