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 suit, NANO?

Actually built the suit myself and is the suit myself and the suit and you can see there are very fine solar scales sewn into the fabric.

Whoa.

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 long ones.

I also sorta hoped working here would give me some ideas for my science fair project.

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 it’s amazing?

Well, don’t give up just yet. I know you’ll come up with something.

Hey Constance, I didn’t know you were volunteering for this project.

Be pretty great if you could harness the energy you just spent catching that beam. I bet that boots for days.

Those things are real energy hogs.

Totally worth it; they’re so cool.

Those things are real energy hogs.

Totally worth it; they’re so cool.

That would be a good idea; maybe I’ll look into it?

Oh my gosh, NANO! I just got the idea for my project!
AND FOOTBALL TOASTER TURNS THE KINETIC ENERGY AND POWER THESE STREET LIGHTS.

THERE HASN’T BEEN MUCH DEVELOPMENT WITH KINETIC ENERGY. 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 NORMALLY WASTE JUST LIVING YOUR LIFE. ALL THE ENERGY THAT WOULD OTHERWISE GO TO WASTE... OF COURSE MY MOM IS JUMPING UP AND DOWN TO POWER THIS BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE IMPORTANT TO DO IT, BUT THE IDEA IS THAT THE ENERGY YOU DO IS THE POWER SOURCE.

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.

IT'S ALSO PERFECT FOR USE IN CASE OF LOSS OF POWER OR NATURAL DISASTERS. SITUATIONS WHERE YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE ELECTRICITY. THE ENERGY WOULD BE AVAILABLE 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.

YOU REMEMBER LAST SUMMER WHEN 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 ADD 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 if you could harness instead of wasted.

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

And when 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'D BE HONORED!

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- ... and much more.
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