14 – METER READING

Below is an example of a five-dial electric meter. Notice that the pointers on the first, third and fifth dial move in the same direction as a hand of a clock. The second and fourth pointers move in the opposite direction.



When reading your electric meter make sure to:

- Stand directly in front of the meter so that you can clearly see the location of each pointer.
- Read the numbers from RIGHT to LEFT, and write them down in the same order.
- If the pointer is between two numbers, read the number the pointer has just passed, always the lowest number.
- If the pointer is between 9 and 0, always read 9.
- If the pointer appears to be exactly on a number, read the next lowest number unless the pointer to its right has passed zero. Since the first dial has no dial to its right, the number must be read independently.
- Each meter is numbered make note of your meter number.

In the example above, the current meter reading is **83895.** The meter was read the previous week at the same time and displayed **83770.** Therefore the energy used over the course of the week for this location is 125 kWhs.

ACTIVITY 1

Determine the reading for each electric meter example shown below.

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ACTIVITY 2

At your house you will find a meter outside that has similar gauges to the ones above. For activity 2 you will need to record the numbers on your home's kilowatt meter. Observe meter readings over three consecutive days and record the numbers you find in the spaces provided below.

Day 1	 	 	
Day 2	 	 	
Day 3	 	 	

ANSWER KEY:

