



The Invisible Electric Puddle

Teacher instructions

Lesson objective

Students will understand:

- Electricity can travel through the ground.
- Keeping feet together helps keep them safer.
- They should **stay back, hop away and tell an adult.**

Materials needed

- Hula hoop, rope or tape circle (to mark “danger zone”).
- Open space for movement.
- Optional: Simple visual (feet apart vs. feet together).

Setup

- Place the hula hoop or rope on the floor.
- Explain: “This is our **invisible electric puddle.**”

Lesson flow (10-15 minutes)

1. Read the story (5 minutes)

- Read “The Invisible Electric Puddle” aloud.
- Pause to emphasize:
 - Invisible.
 - Feet together.
 - Hop away.

2. Demonstration (3-5 minutes)

Stand near the circle and model:

- Feet apart (DO NOT step in)
 - Say:
“If one foot is here and one foot is there, electricity can travel through your body.”
- Feet together.
 - Say:
“Feet together makes it safer!”

3. Student practice activity (5 minutes)

Have students take turns or move together.

- Stand near (not inside) the circle.
- Put feet together.
- Practice bunny hopping backward away from the circle.

Teacher cue: “Feet together, now HOP, HOP, HOP away!”

The Invisible Electric Puddle

One day after a big rain, Sam and Mia were playing outside.

They were running, jumping and laughing when Sam suddenly stopped.

“Whoa ... look at that!” Sam said.

On the ground ahead was a power line that had fallen down.

It was lying across the sidewalk, still and silent.

Mia’s eyes got wide.

“Don’t go any closer!” she said.

“Why?” Sam asked.

“That wire can still have electricity,” Mia explained, “and when it touches the ground or water, the electricity can spread out – like an invisible puddle!”

Sam looked at the wet ground around the wire.

“But I can’t see anything!” he said.

“That’s the tricky part,” Mia said. “The danger is invisible – but it’s still there.”

Sam’s eyes got big. “Even if it looks safe?”

“Yes,” said Mia. “It can still be dangerous.”

Sam looked down at his feet.

“What should we do?” he asked.

Mia remembered the safety rules: Stay back, hop away and tell an adult.

“If we’re close,” Mia said, “we keep our feet together.”

Sam put his feet right next to each other.

“Why?” he asked.

“Because if your feet are apart,” Mia said, “electricity can go up one leg and down the other!”

“Yikes!” said Sam, quickly squeezing his feet together.

“And then,” Mia said, “we hop away, like this!”

“HOP! HOP! HOP!” they both said, keeping their feet together as they hopped backwards away from the invisible puddle.

When they were far away, Sam smiled. “I’m glad you knew what to do!”

“Me too,” said Mia. “If you ever see something like that again, remember to stay back and hop away. Now, let’s tell an adult to help keep everyone safe.”

Then off they went to find help, calling a warning to anyone who might hear, “Stay back and keep your feet together! Hop away! Don’t walk!”