



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Brings Energy and Excitement to Kick Off Week of the Young Child



Image: Students at Ricardo Richards Elementary School participate in a high-energy activity demonstrating how electricity moves on April 13, 2026.

St. Croix, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (April 14, 2026) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or “the Authority”) joined the Virgin Islands Department of Education in kicking off Week of the Young Child with an engaging and high-energy outreach event held on Monday, April 13, at Ricardo Richards Elementary School.

Second-grade students took part in a fun, hands-on learning experience designed to introduce the basics of electricity. Through an interactive activity, students created a “chain reaction” by passing a bean bag along a line, demonstrating how energy moves from one electron to the next. The activity concluded with a race to the finish, representing how quickly electricity travels from power lines to reach homes.

Students learned about electrons, the tiny particles that carry electricity, and how they move slowly on their own but pass energy along in a continuous chain, allowing electricity to

quickly power homes and communities. The activity sparked excitement and friendly competition, helping students better understand how electricity flows in a way that was fun, memorable, and active.

This event marks the kickoff of a series of educational visits WAPA will participate in throughout the Week of the Young Child (April 13-April 17) across the territory.

WAPA remains dedicated to inspiring the next generation to explore STEM from a young age. The Authority continues this effort through interactive learning experiences that make complex concepts simple and engaging.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Communication's department is committed to reaching, informing, and connecting with the youngest members of the community to the eldest, through meaningful, transparent and effective communication.

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About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.

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