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green_dialogues
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PGC Day 24: Greener

Where I live in Cobb County, Georgia, there are two main energy cooperatives: Cobb EMC and Georgia Power.

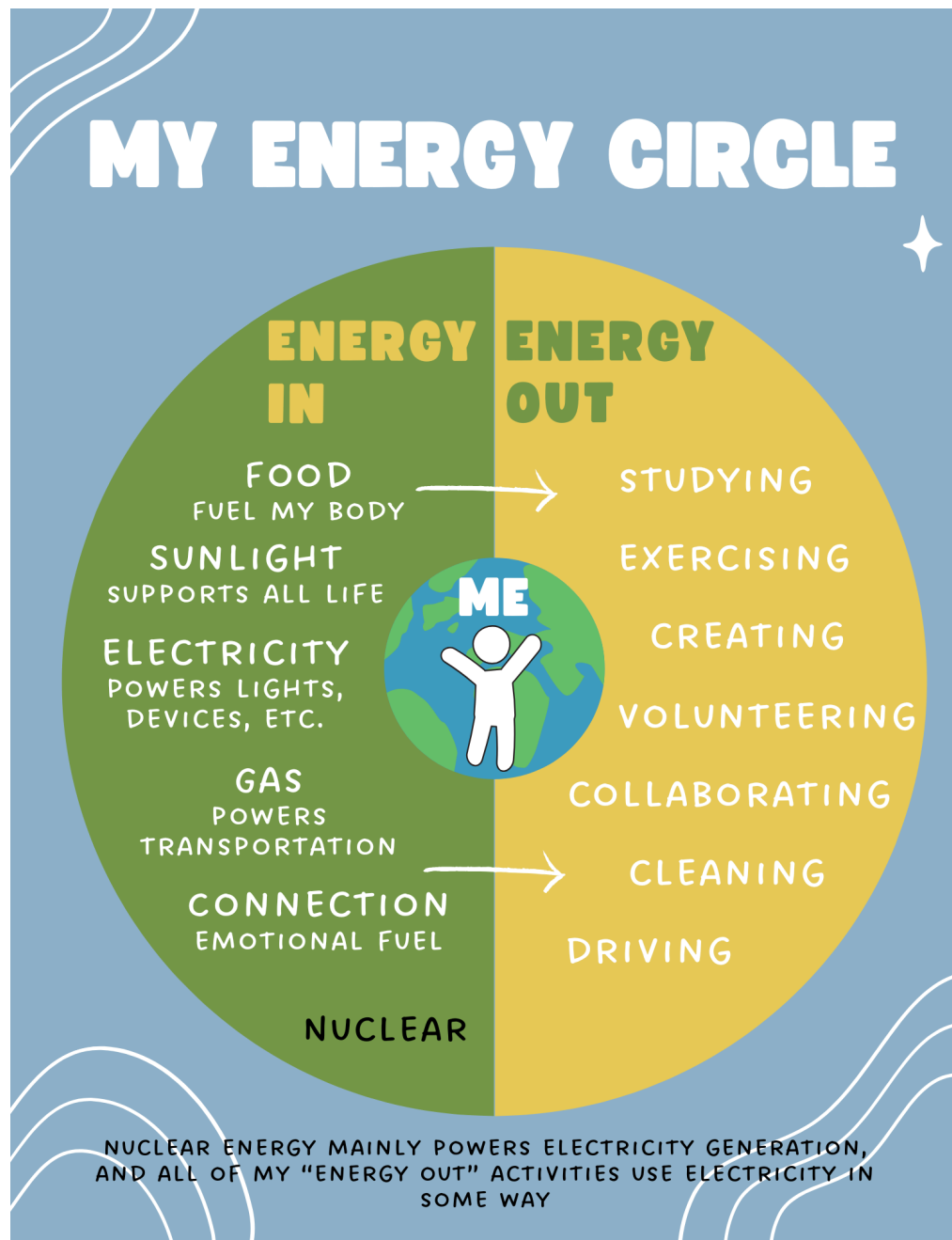
Cobb EMC Energy Mix

- **50% coal and natural gas** (majority natural gas)
- **37% nuclear power**
- **13% renewable energy** → Goal to increase their renewable energy portfolio 200% by 2030

Georgia Power Energy Mix

- **40% gas and oil**
- **29% nuclear power**
- **16% coal**
- **8% renewables**
- **2% Hydro**
- **5% Null**

Reflection: After reviewing these percentages, I was surprised to learn that Georgia Power's largest portion of energy is gas and oil. I assumed it was a more renewable-based company, but it appears there is much progress to be made toward cleaner energy sources in Georgia. I think it's important for well-established companies like Georgia Power to lead by example and invest more in renewable technologies to show that large-scale change toward sustainability is possible. Both Georgia Power and Cob EMC have solar energy projects and say they are making efforts to improve air quality, but these initiatives still feel like they are on the backburner. I think it's important for consumers to exercise their power as much as possible to hopefully influence how quickly companies shift toward a cleaner future.



Caption: Learning about where my energy comes from made me realize how much of it may be from nonrenewable and unsustainable sources. I want to be more mindful about how I use energy and support renewable sources in Georgia. Consumers like myself hold real influence as companies ultimately respond to demand. When we advocate for renewable energy, businesses have a financial incentive to respond and prioritize sustainability. Meaningful change starts not just with policy but with collective action that proves clean energy is both necessary and profitable.