

# Power Ball

When you're done kicking this ball around, it will help you read a book.



For inventor Jessica Matthews, play is power.



The Soccket lights up after play.

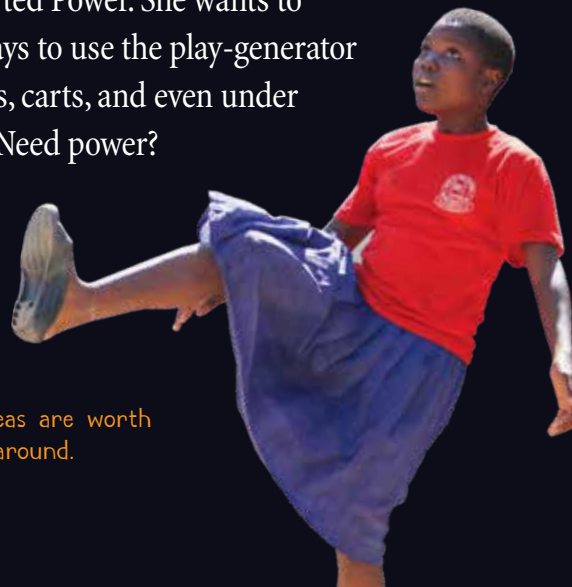
This ball has a secret—it makes electricity. Inside is a small generator, similar to a “shake-to-light” flashlight. As the ball rolls around, a magnet slides around coiled copper wire. This charges up a small battery.

After an hour or so of play, the ball can power a small reading light for the evening. The light plugs right into the top of the ball. The ball can also charge up a cellphone or a tablet computer. The inventors call it the “Soccket.” They hope it will help kids get light at night, for reading or doing homework. And if you don’t like soccer, they also make a power-generating jump rope.

This clever ball was thought up by college students Jessica Matthews and Julia Silverman as part of a class project. Now they have sold thousands. They continue to improve the design. The biggest challenge is making the balls tough enough to stand a lot of kicking without damaging the plug. Matthews has started a company called Uncharted Power. She wants to find ways to use the play-generator in bikes, carts, and even under floors. Need power?

Make your own!

Good ideas are worth kicking around.



Play to charge up, charge up to play!

