

Year 4 Electricity

Key Vocabulary

Electricity - a form of energy used for lighting, heating, making sound and making machines work.

Electrical appliance - a machine or device that runs on electricity.

Circuit – a complete route which an electrical current can flow around

Mains - the electricity supplied to households from power stations.

Wire – a long, thin piece of metal that carries electrical current

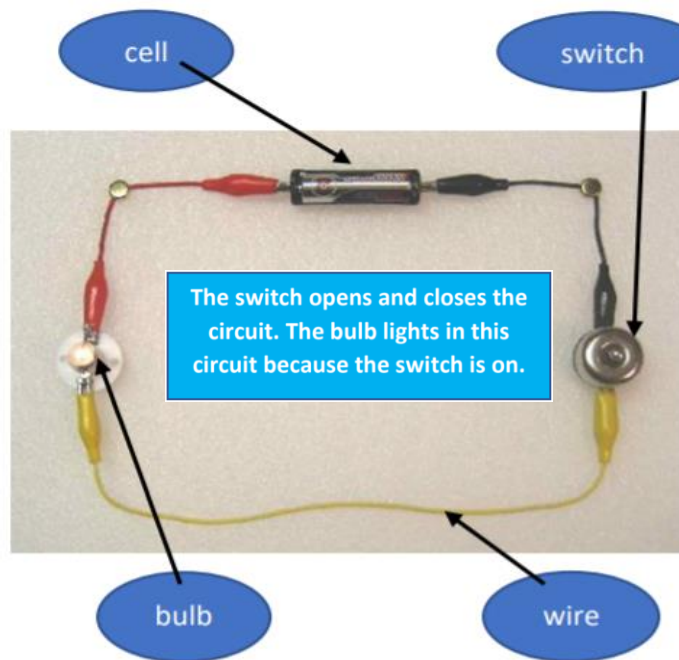
Switch – a component that can turn the electrical device on or off.

Cell – a device used to generate electricity, a battery is an example of this.

Electrical Conductor – a material/device which allows electricity to pass through

Electrical Insulator – a material/device which does not allow electricity to pass through

Electrical circuit with a bulb

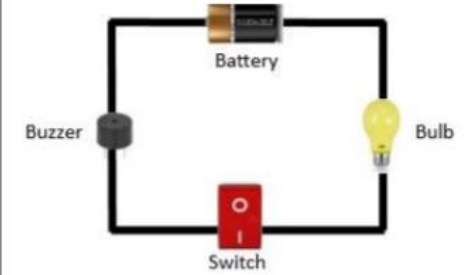


Appliances that run on electricity

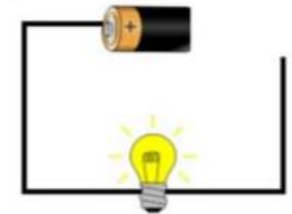
Some plug into the mains and others run on batteries.



This circuit is complete so the buzzer will sound and the bulb will light.



This circuit will not work as it is not complete.



Conductors

Some materials let electricity pass through them easily. These are known as electrical conductors. Many metals are good electrical conductors, such as iron, copper and steel.



Insulators

Some materials do not allow electricity to pass through them. They are known as insulators. Plastic, wood, rubber and glass are good electrical insulators.

