

Year 4: What are the components of a simple circuit?

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Interesting Book	Sticky Knowledge about electricity
circuit	An electrical circuit is a completed path through which an electrical current flows.		☐ Electricity can be generated by from power stations, wind, the sun, water and even animal poo!
buzzers	A buzzer is an automatic signalling device. They are used as alarms and door bells.		☐ Electricity is a type of energy that can build up in one place to flow to another.
conductor	A conductor is an object or type of material that allows the flow of an electrical current in one or more directions	A Scientist just like me 	☐ A power station is a place where electricity is created and sent to our homes.
battery	A battery is a device that stores chemical energy and makes it available in an electrical form.		☐ Electricity travels at the speed of light, which is more than 186,000 miles per hour.
cells	An electrical cell is a device that is used to generate electricity.	Important facts to know by the end of the electricity topic ☐ Know about common appliances that run on electricity. ☐ Know how to construct a simple series electrical circuit. ☐ Identify and name the basic parts of the circuit, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. ☐ Know that a switch opens and closes a circuit. ☐ Know about some common conductors and insulators. ☐ Know that metals are good conductors.	☐ One flash of lightening could power 1000 houses for a whole year.
switch	A switch is an electrical component that can 'make' or 'break' an electrical circuit.		☐ When an electric charge builds up on the surface of an object it makes static electricity. This is why we sometimes have a small electric shock.
socket	Sockets allow electrical equipment to be connected to the alternating current (AC) power supply in buildings and at other sites.		☐ The first power plant opened in 1882 and was opened by Thomas Edison.
appliance	An electrical appliance is a device that uses electricity to perform a function.		☐ Thomas Edison was a very famous inventor who helped us make the most of electricity from bulbs to fuses.
appliance series circuit	Components connected in series are connected along a single path, so the same current flows through all of the components.		
insulator	An insulator is a material whose internal electric charges do not flow freely.		