

Planet Power: Why is Our Planet Powerful?

Vocabulary

electricity	The flow of an electric current through a material, e.g. from a power source through wires to an
battery	A device that stores electrical energy as a chemical. Two or more cells joined together form a bat-
cell	Normally, we would call this a bat-tery but scientifically, this is a cell. Two or more cells joined to-gether form a battery.
energy	Electricity is a form of energy—it powers things around us.
circuit	A pathway that electricity can flow around. It is based around wires and a power supply. Exam-ples of components (parts) you can add in to a circuit are bulbs, switches, buzzers and motors.
switch	Used to turn other components in the circuit on or off.
wires	Used to connect the different components in the circuit togeth-
conduct	Different materials conduct elec-tricity to a lesser or greater ex-

Key Information

- Identify common appliances that run on elec-tricity
- Construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers
- Identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a bat-tery
- Recognise that a switch opens and closes a cir-cuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit
- Recognise some common conductors and insula-tors, and associate metals with being good con-ductors



Key Questions

How do we use electricity around us?

How can we power a lightbulb?

Does electricity travel through all materials?

How do switches work?