

Key Vocabulary

electricity	The flow of an electric current through a material, e.g. from a power source through wires to an appliance .
generate	To make or produce.
renewable	A source of electricity that will not run out. These include solar, geothermal, hydro and wind.
non-renewable	This source of energy will eventually run out and so will no longer be able to be used to make electricity . These include fossil fuels – coal, oil and natural gas.
appliances	A piece of equipment or a device designed to perform a particular job, such as a washing machine or mobile phone.
circuit	A pathway that electricity can flow around. It includes wires and a power supply and may include bulbs, switches or buzzers.
battery	A device that stores electrical energy as a chemical.

Class 3 Electricity

Key Knowledge

Many household devices and appliances run on electricity. Some plug in to the mains and others run on batteries.

An electrical circuit consists of a cell or battery connected to a component using wires. If there is a break in the circuit, a loose connection or a short circuit, the component will not work. A switch can be added to the circuit to turn the component on and off.

Metals are good conductors so they can be used as wires in a circuit. Non-metallic solids are insulators except for graphite (pencil lead). Water, if not completely pure, also conducts electricity.



A conductor of **electricity** is a material that will allow **electricity** to flow through it. Metals are good conductors. Materials that are electrical insulators do not allow **electricity** to flow through them. Wood, plastic and glass are good insulators.

Electrical Circuit Symbols

