

Year 6 Electricity

Key Vocabulary

Battery - A container consisting of one or more cells where chemical energy is converted into electricity and used as a source of power

Bulb - A glass bulb which provides light by passing an electrical current through a filament

Buzzer - An electrical device that makes a buzzing noise and is used for signalling

Cell - A device containing electrodes that is used for generating current

Circuit - A complete and closed path around which a circulating electric current can flow

Conductor - A material or device which allows heat or electricity to carry through

Current - A flow of electricity which results from the ordered directional movement of electrically charged particles

Electricity - A form of energy resulting from the existence of charged particles

Filament - A conducting wire or thread with a high melting point that forms part of an electric bulb

Motor - A machine powered by electricity that supplies motive power for a vehicle or other moveable device

Switch - A device for making and breaking the connection in an electric circuit

Voltage - An electrical force that makes electricity move through a wire, measured in volts

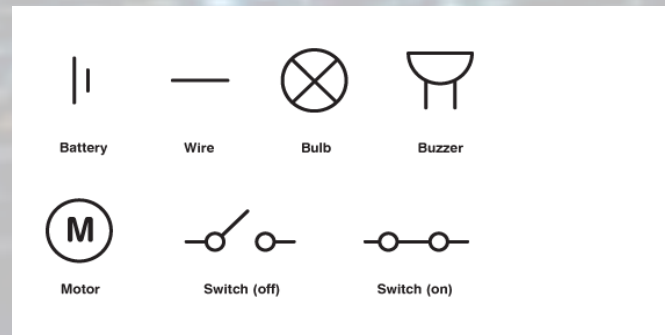
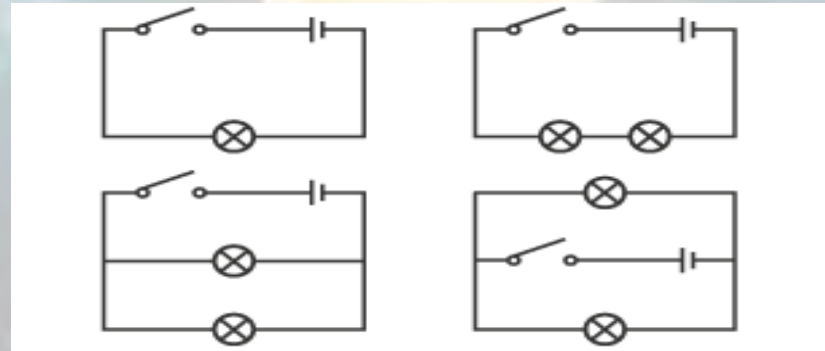
Michael Faraday used Volta's discoveries and was able to make an electric current move by using a magnet inside a wired coil. He was able to build an electric motor and generator!



Thomas Edison invented the modern lightbulb. While lightbulbs were not a new idea, he did improve on the previous designs which were not useful as they did not stay lit for very long.



Lewis Latimer worked for Edison and invented a filament (the metal part that you can see in lightbulbs, through which the electric current passes) which enabled Edison's lightbulb to stay lit for a long time.



Talking Points

- Why is electricity so important?
- Why do scientists use circuit symbols?
- What would the world be like if there was no electricity?
- How can we make bulbs brighter?