

What should I already know?

- 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 battery.
- Recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit.
- Recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.

Skills

- Associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit.
- Compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches.
- Use recognised symbols (at least: cells, wires, switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors) when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.



Battery



Wire



Bulb



Buzzer



Motor



Switch (off)



Switch (on)

Year 6– Summer Term – Electricity

Intention: In Science, I will learn...

Knowledge

- Series Circuit is a circuit that has only one route for the current to take. If more bulbs or buzzers are added, the power has to be shared and so they will be dimmer or quieter. If just one part of this series circuit breaks, the circuit is broken and the flow of current stops.
- More batteries or a higher voltage create more power to flow through the circuit and shortening the wires means the electrons have less resistance to flow through are the two ways to make a bulb brighter or a buzzer louder.
- Fewer batteries or a lower voltage give less power to the circuit. More buzzers or bulbs mean the power is shared by more components and lengthening the wires means the electrons have to travel through more resistance will make a bulb dimmer or a buzzer quieter.

Vocabulary

Circuit	A path that an electrical current can flow around.
Symbol	A visual picture that stands for something else.
Cell/Battery	A device that stores energy as a chemical until it is needed. A cell is a single unit. A battery is a collection of cells.
Current	The flow of electrons, measured in amps
Amps	How electric current is measured
Voltage	The force that makes the electric current move through the wires. The greater the voltage, the more current will flow.
Resistance	The difficulty that the electric current has when flowing around a circuit.
Electrons	Very small particles that travel around an electrical circuit.