

Electrical Circuits		l Circuits
Electrical Circuits	A circuit is made up of components joined together by wires Components do different jobs in the circuit, e.g. a bulb transfers electrical energy into light (and heat) energy.  A circuit has to be complete for electricity to flow Different components are represented by symbols  Bulb  A Ammeter  Open switch	Voltage Differen
Conductors and Insulators	A conductor is a material that current flows through. Conductors are usually metals e.g. Copper, iron, gold. An insulator is a material that current can't flow through. Insulators are usually non-metals e.g. glass, plastic, wood Insulators have a very high resistance so it is very hard for much current to flow through them.	Electrica
Current	Current is a flow of electrons (charge). The electrons don't get used up, they are part of the conductor. The symbol for current is I The size of the current depends on how many electrons (charges) move past a point per second: Lots of electrons per second = high current. An ammeter is used to measure the size of the current in Amperes, A. Ammeters are placed in series with the component you want to measure the current through.	Static El
Series Circuits	•In a series circuit, the components are connected one after the other. There is only one loop. •Current is the same everywhere in a series circuit •Potential difference is shared between the components in a series circuit, but adds up to the total potential difference given by the power supply.	Power a Electrici
Parallel Circuits	<ul> <li>In a parallel circuit, there is more than one loop so the current can take different paths in the circuit.</li> <li>Potential difference is the same everywhere in a parallel circuit and is given by the potential difference of the power supply.</li> <li>Current is shared between components connected in parallel circuits.</li> </ul>	Electrici

Voltage (Potential Difference)	*Voltage, or potential difference, is the energy transferred in a component by each electron (or unit of charge).     *The symbol for potential difference is V.     *Potential difference is measured in Volts, V     *A voltmeter is used to measure the potential difference and is connected in parallel across a component.     *Increasing the potential difference in a circuit will mean that more energy is transferred per unit of charge     *Different sized batteries have different potential differences.     *Mains voltage is about 230V.	
Electrical Safety	•Electricity can be very dangerous and can cause serious injury.  •People can receive an electric shock if using damaged electrical appliances or using electricity in an unsafe way.  •High voltage electricity can flow through a person's body  •This can cause the heart to beat incorrectly or to stop completely (cardiac arrest) and severe burns.	
Static Electricity	Parts of atoms cause electrons can build up or be rubbed away onto surfaces.  This build up of charge (electrons) on the surface of a material is called static electricity.  Friction is the force responsible for causing electrons to transfer from one surface to another.  If an insulated object touches a charged object, it also becomes charged.  Like charges repel, opposite charges attract	
Power and Paying For Electricity	•The power rating of an appliance tells us how much energy it transfers per second. •Appliances with higher power ratings transfer more energy per second. •When we pay for electricity, we are paying for the electrical energy transferred by the appliance. •Using more efficient appliances is a way to pay less for electricity, as well as using less electricity overall.	
Electricity Calculations	•Charge = Current x Time •Potential Difference = Current x Resistance •Power = Current x Potential Difference •Energy = Power x Time (this can be used when energy is measured in Joules and in kWh.	



## The Solar System and Beyond

The Earth	•Human beings live on Earth.  •The Earth is a planet in the Solar System.  •The Sun is at the centre of the Solar System.  •The Earth orbits (moves around) the Sun.  •One complete Earth orbit around the Sun takes about 365 days. This is called a year.  •A leap year is 366 days. Leap years occur every four years and happen because an Earth orbit is actually 365 and a quarter days so we collect the four quarters together in an extra day.  •The Earth rotates (spins) on a tilted axis. Each rotation takes 24 hours. This is called a day.  •The Moon orbits the Earth.	
Day and Night	•The part of the Earth facing the Sun is in daytime. The part facing away is in night time. •Sunrise and sunset happen as the Earth rotates on its axis. The Sun seems to take a curved path across the sky •The Sun appears to rise in the East and set in the West as the Earth rotates anticlockwise on its axis.	
Longitude and latitude	•These are imaginary lines that we use to split up the Earth. •Latitude lines go around the Earth •Longitude lines go from the North pole to the South pole. They split the Earth into time zones	
The Solar System	•The Solar System is made up of the Sun orbited by eight planets •The planets in order are Mercury, Venus, Mars, Earth, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune •Comets and asteroids also orbit the Sun •The further away from the Sun a planet is, the lower the temperature on its surface. •The further away from the Sun a planet is, the longer its orbit takes.	
Stars	•A star is a ball of hydrogen that gives out heat and light due to nuclear reactions happening inside it •Our Sun is a star •Stars appear to move across the night sky because of the Earth's rotation on its axis. •Stars form patterns in the sky called constellations, e.g. Orion	

n and Beyond		
Galaxy	•A galaxy is a collection of billions of stars orbiting a central point •Our Sun is part of a galaxy called the Milky Way. Other stars in the milky way are Alpha Centauri, Rigel and Betelgeuse. •There are billions of galaxies in the Universe.	
Life Cycle of a Star	•Stars go through a life cycle • For stars the same size as our Sun, the life cycle is : nebula → protostar → main sequence star → red giant → white dwarf → black dwarf •For stars much more massive than the Sun, the sequence is: nebula → protostar → main sequence star → red supergiant → supernova → neutron star or black hole •The Sun will eventually become a black giant	
Seasons	•The Earth has seasons because of the tilt in its axis. •In summer, there are more hours of sunlight and it is warmer. The Earth is tilted towards the Sun. •In Winter, there are fewer hours of daylight and it is colder The Earth is tilted away from the Sun. •The Northern Hemisphere has opposite seasons to the Southern Hemisphere, i.e. when it is Winter in the Northern Hemisphere, it is Summer in the Southern Hemisphere. •At the North Pole, the Sun doesn't set for part of the Summer and doesn't rise for part of the Winter	
Light Year	•A light year is a unit of distance used to measure the huge distances in space. •It is how far light travels in one year. One light year is 9.46 trillion km!	
The Moon	•The Moon orbits the Earth •It is a natural satellite •The Moon appears to change shape over a cycle of around 28 days. We call this the phases of the moon. •We see the moon because it reflects light from the Sun •We see different phases because different parts of the Moon are lit up by the Sun as it orbits the Earth. •new moon→ waxing crescent → first quarter → half moon → waxing gibbous → full moon → waning gibbous → last quarter → waning crescent •When the Earth passes between the Sun and the Moon, we call it a lunar eclipse	