

Subject	Science
Unit/Topic	Electricity

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Electron	A tiny charged particle found inside every atom.
Electricity	The movement of electrons through a material.
Electric charge	The total charge of all the moving electrons in a material.
Current	The amount of charge passing a certain point per second.
Amp	The unit we use to measure current, named after André-Marie Ampère.
Ammeter	A device that measures current.
Circuit	A continuous route, or network of routes, starting and ending at a power supply, that allows the movement of electrons.
Series circuit	A circuit in which there is only one path for electrons to take.
Parallel circuit	A circuit in which there are different paths for electrons to take.
In series with...	Positioned in the same branch as... (so electrons have to move through both).
In parallel with...	Positioned in a different branch to... (so electrons move through either one or the other).
Potential difference	The electrical energy given to each charge, or lost by each charge, between two points.
Volt	The unit we use to measure potential difference, named after Alessandro Volta.
Voltmeter	A device that measures potential difference.
Resistance	How good a material is at preventing the movement of electrons.

Short circuit

A circuit with a short cut built into it so the electrons miss out one or more components – usually these happen by accident.

