Does electricity flow easily through all objects?

Working Scientifically Skills













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Physics





Vocabulary			
electricity	The flow of an electric current through a material, e.g. from a power source through wires to an appliance.	mains electricity	Electricity supplied through wires to a building.
appliances	A piece of equipment or a device designed to perform a particular job, such as a washing machine or mobile phone.	electrical conductor	A conductor of electricity is a material that will allow electricity to flow through it.
battery	A device that stores electrical energy as a chemical. Two or more cells joined together form a battery.	electrical insulator	Materials that are electrical insulators do not allow electricity to flow through them.
circuit	A pathway that electricity can flow around. It is based around wires and a power supply. Examples of components (parts) you can add in to a circuit are bulbs, switches, buzzers and motors.		

WHAT?

An appliance is a device, piece of equipment or an instrument designed to perform a task.

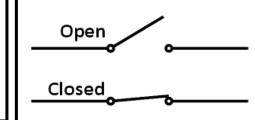
To use the mains electricity, you need to plug the appliance into a socket. To use battery electricity, you need to insert a battery into the appliance. In the UK, mains electricity is produced by gas, coal or nuclear power stations.

Wind turbines, hydroelectric and solar panel power stations are also used to generate electricity.

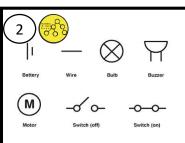
Batteries store chemicals which produce an electric current.







Switches can be used to open or close a circuit.
When off, a switch 'breaks' the circuit to stop the flow of electricity. When on, a switch completes the circuit and allows the electricity to flow.



A circuit is a complete path around which electricity can flow.

A complete circuit requires wires, battery and a bulb. If there is a break in the circuit that prevents the electricity from flowing, the components will not work.

A bulb will only light up when a circuit is complete. This must include two wires (connected to each end of the battery) and a bulb.

A bulb can be made brighter by adding more batteries.

