

Key circuit components

cell	Supplies electrical energy.
bulb	A transducer which converts electrical energy into light.
buzzer	A transducer which converts electrical energy to sound
motor	A transducer which converts electrical energy to movement or kinetic energy.
switch	Allows current to flow when in the on position.
wire	Passes current very easily from one part of a circuit to another.

Key Questions

Can you use recognised symbols when representing a circuit in a diagram?

Can you associate the brightness of a bulb or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit?

Can you 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?

Key words

Explanation

battery	Two or more cells together
circuit	Connected electrical components that have to include a cell. It needs to be complete for electricity to flow through it.
circuit diagram	A representation of a circuit showing the components using symbols.
series	A circuit connected in series is where components are connected in a line from a battery.
parallel	A circuit connected in parallel is where components are connected parallel to each other and the battery.
crocodile clips	Clips with teeth like edges that are connected to wires and can be used to connect components in a circuit.

Key Figure

Andre-Marie Ampere (1775-1836)

In 1820, this French physicist and chemist discovered electromagnetism. He gave his name to the unit of electric current.



Main circuit symbols

			
			