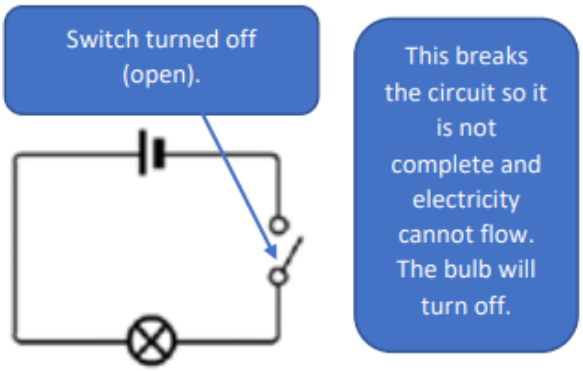
Science Knowledge Organiser

Topic: Electricity	Year 6: Autumn Term	Strand: Physics

What should I already know?

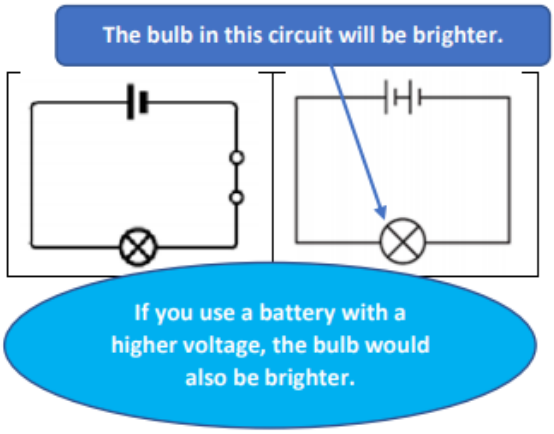
- Batteries store electricity
- A circuit must be complete for a bulb or buzzer to work
- Some appliances need electricity
- Some materials conduct electricity
- Some materials are insulators



Circuit symbols

cell	
battery	
wire	
bulb	
buzzer	
motor	M
switch	Open switch / Closed switch

Adding more cells to a circuit makes a bulb brighter:



Key vocabulary	
circuit	A complete path that an electric current can flow around. It flows from the battery, through wires and devices before returning to the battery. If the circuit is not complete the electric current cannot flow.
circuit symbol	A symbol used to represent various electronic components or functions in a diagram of a circuit.
circuit diagram	A visual representation of an electrical circuit using symbols to represent the electrical components.
cell	A single electrical energy source.
battery	A device consisting of one or more cells.
switch	An electrical component that can make or break an electrical circuit. When a switch is open (off), there is a gap in the circuit and electricity cannot flow around the circuit.
voltage	Volts are a measure of the energy of a flow of electricity. Mains electricity carries a voltage of 210-240 volts. A typical cell in school has 1.5 volts.