

# Ames Public Library @HOME Activities

## Circuits!

Electricity is the flow of tiny particles called electrons. A circuit is a complete path through which electricity can flow. A circuit must include an energy source, conductors, and an electrical load. Most circuits also include a switch. See a related video on the Library's YouTube Channel at <http://bit.ly/APLvideos>.

## Books and Media:

Title	Author / Performer	Call Number
<i>Science Fair Projects With Electricity &amp; Electronics</i>	Bonnet, Robert	J 507.8 BON
<i>Electricity &amp; Magnetism</i>	Adamczyk, Peter	J 537 ADA
<i>Electricity &amp; Magnetism</i>	Crane, Cody	J 537 CRA
<i>You Wouldn't Want To Live Without Electricity</i>	Graham, Ian	J 537 GRA
<i>Discover Electricity</i>	Vogel, Julia	J 537 VOG
<i>Amazing Makerspace: Electricity</i>	Holzweiss, Kristina	J 537.078 HOL
<i>Cool Battery &amp; Electricity Projects: Fun &amp; Creative Workshop Activities</i>	Felix, Rebecca	J 621.3 FEL
<i>Wired</i>	Suen, Anastasia	J 621.319 SUE
<i>Little Bits</i>	Lovett, Amber	J 621.381 LOV
<i>Electronics for Kids</i>	Øyvind Nydal Dahl	J 621.381 NYD
<i>Connect It!</i>	Olson, Elise	J 621.381 OLS
<i>Electronics for Kids</i>	Shamieh, Cathleen	J 621.381 SHA
<i>Building Squishy Circuits</i>	Thomas, AnneMarie	J621.3815 THO
<i>Electricity</i>	Walker, Sally	e-book on Overdrive
<i>Electricity</i>	(Britannica Educational Publishing)	e-book
<i>Electricity (DVD)</i>	Nye, Bill	J 537 (DVD) ELE
<i>The Science of Disney Imagineering – Electricity (DVD)</i>	(Disney)	J 537 (DVD) SCI
<i>The Way Things Work – Electricity (DVD)</i>	(Schlessinger Media)	J 537 (DVD) WAY

## Websites:

URL	Notes
<a href="https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/electric-circuit/443114">https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/electric-circuit/443114</a>	
<a href="https://science.howstuffworks.com/electricity.htm">https://science.howstuffworks.com/electricity.htm</a>	Contains a video that explains static electricity

## Vocabulary

**Circuit** – A path that an electric current follows in order to reach its final destination. For example when electricity goes from the meter in your home to the computer it is following a circuit.

Circuits need to be complete or closed for it to work.

**Conductors** – Materials that allow electric current to pass through them easily. Conductors can be linked to the positive and negative ends of a battery to create a circuit.

**Load** – Any device attached to an electrical circuit that is activated or energized by the flow of electricity to it.

**Switch** – The switch provides the control that closes (continues) or opens (breaks) the electrical energy flow on the circuit.

**Battery** – A cell or a group of cells that can create an electric current.

**Current** – (here), the flow of electricity.

**Electricity** – The flow of electrons is called electricity. Electricity helps power our world, and can be seen in nature in a bolt of lightning.

**Electrons** – Electrons are the negatively charged particles of an atom. Electrons are extremely small compared to all of the other parts of the atom. The mass of the electron is almost 1,000 times smaller than the mass of a proton.

**Insulator** – An item that does not allow electricity to run through it. Certain items may be insulated to keep electricity where it is supposed to be. Examples of good insulators include – glass, plastic, rubber, and wood.

**Socket** – An opening in your home where you can plug electronics into to connect your devices to the electricity coming into your home.

**Volt** – A volt is a way to measure how much force an electric current has when it moves through an object, or a conductor.

Sources :

<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/electricity/353091>

<https://sciencenotes.org/what-is-a-proton/>

<https://science.howstuffworks.com/electricity.htm>

[http://www.chem4kids.com/files/atom\\_electron.html](http://www.chem4kids.com/files/atom_electron.html)

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54a1ab67e4b092556fa8c9e1/t/55b8020ae4b0568a75e33cc6/1438122506107/circuit-vocab.pdf>



## Take Away Kit: Build a Circuit

### Bag Contents:

- 1 – 9 volt Battery
- 1 Buzzer
- 2 Alligator clips

A circuit is a path that an electric current follows. A circuit needs to be closed or complete for it to work properly. Here you are going to build a simple circuit to activate the buzzer.

Take out all the items in your bag; you will need all of the items listed in the contents to make a complete circuit.

The battery that you have has stored charge. The battery has a positive and a negative terminal. Locate them; it is essential when building this circuit that the positive terminal of the battery is connected to the red wire on the buzzer and the negative terminal is connected to the black wire on the buzzer.

### Positive to Red; Negative to Black.

Using the alligator clips connect the battery terminals to the buzzer. If your buzzer sounds then you created a complete circuit for electricity to flow. If the buzzer does not sound, check your connections and try again.

For more information, watch the video on Circuits on APL's YouTube Channel at <http://bit.ly/APLvideos>.

