Science Vocabulary and definitions.

Electricity



Year 4	
Battery	A device that makes electricity, with the reaction of certain chemicals
Bulb	A small and simple light source that glows on the
	application of electricity
Buzzer	An electrical device that is used to make a buzzing
	sound
Cell	An electrical power supply
Charged particles	A Particle with an electrical charge
Chemical reaction	A process in which one or more substances are
	converted to one or more different substances
Circuit	A path for electricity to move through
Components	Parts of the electrical circuit
Conductivity	How much a material conducts electricity
Conductors	A substance or material that allows electricity to flow
	through it
Electrical current	The flow of charged particles
Electrical energy	Moving energy such as a bolt of lightning
Electrons	Negatively charged particles
Energy	"The ability to do work" how things change and
	move. It's everywhere around us and takes all sorts of
	forms
Insulators	A material which does not easily allow heat and/or
	electricity to pass through it
Mains	The electricity delivered to homes and businesses
	through an electric grid (called the National Grid in
	the UK)
Material	A substance made up of matter. It can be in a solid,
	liquid or gas form
Matter	Anything that takes up space and can be weighed
Metal	A substance characterised by its strength and its
	ability to conduct heat and electricity
Object	Something that you can touch
Particles	A tiny piece of 'stuff' or matter which cannot be seen
	with our eyes

Switch	A component within an electrical circuit which
	enables the flow of electricity to be turned on and off

Year 6	
Motor	An electrical machine that converts electrical energy
	into mechanical energy
Parallel circuit	Has two or more paths for the electricity to flow, the
	loads are parallel to each other
Series circuit	Has a single path for the electricity to flow
Voltage	Measures how strong the electrical current is in a
	circuit
Wire	Metallic conductor, usually insulated and used to carry
	electric current in a circuit