Name _____

Extra Support for Vocabulary and Concepts

What Are Electric Currents, Conductors, and Insulators?

Science Words

Say each word quietly to yourself. Then read the meaning.

Read the tip to help you remember.

insulator [IN·suh·layt·er] a material that does not allow electricity to flow

Your home may have *insulation* material in the walls. The *insulation* material keeps heat from flowing out of the house. An electrical *insulator* keeps electricity from flowing.

conductor [kuhn·DUHK·ter] a material that allows electricity to flow

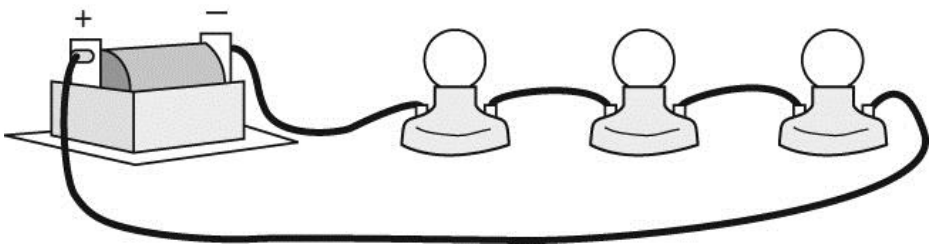
An orchestra *conductor* is the person who helps orchestra music flow. An electrical *conductor* is material that allows electricity to flow.

circuit [SER·kit] a path that starts and finishes at the same place

Circuit and *circle* begin with the same letters. Both words name something that begins and ends at the same place.

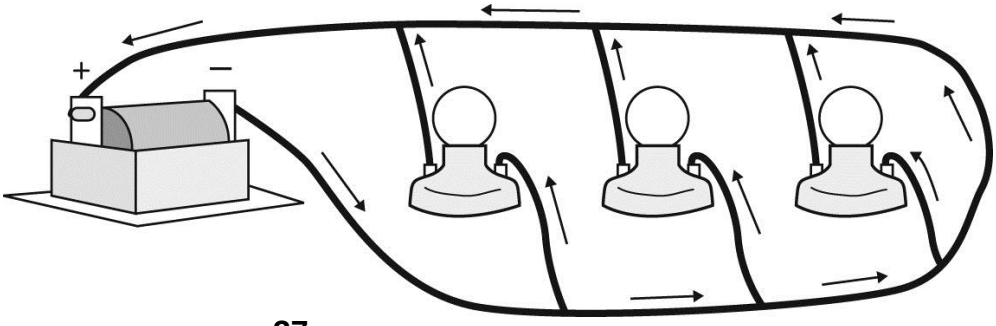
series circuit [SIR·eez SER·kit] an electrical circuit with only one path for electricity

The World *Series* in baseball is a group of games arranged in a set order. Think of the order as a single path from one game to the next. Like the World *Series*, a *series circuit* has one path for electricity to flow.



parallel circuit [PAIR·uh·lel SER·kit] an electrical circuit with more than one path for electricity

Parallel tells about two or more paths that never cross. A *parallel circuit* has two or more paths for electricity.



Name _____

What Are Electric Currents, Conductors, and Insulators?

Science Concepts

Read the Ideas more than once. Do your best to remember them.

1. A circuit is a path that starts and finishes at the same place.
2. An electrical circuit is the path electricity follows.
3. Materials that allow electricity to flow through them are conductors.
4. Most metals are conductors.
5. Materials that do not allow electricity to flow through them are insulators.
6. Rubber and plastic are insulators.
7. In a series circuit, electricity follows only one path.
8. In a parallel circuit, electricity follows more than one path.
9. A light bulb may be part of an electrical circuit.
10. A bulb does not light if the circuit is broken.