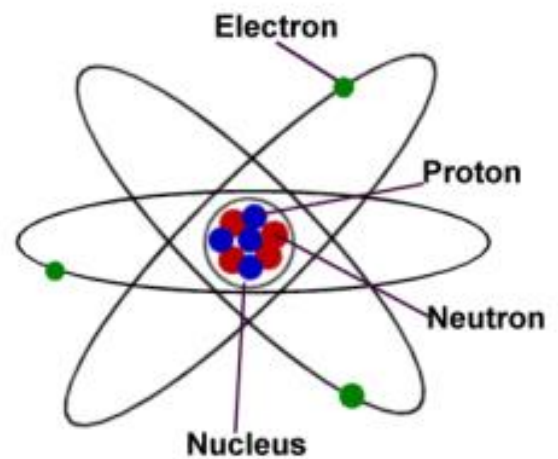


Electricity

What is electricity?

Electricity is an energy. This energy can be used to power electrical items such as toasters, kettles, cookers, televisions and computer tablets. Electrical energy is caused by electrons (the particles in atoms) moving about to make a current.

All materials are made up of atoms. Each atom has a nucleus with particles called protons and neutrons that are very tightly bound together. Around the nucleus there are other particles around the nucleus called electrons.



- Protons = positive charge
- Neutrons = neutral charge
- Electrons = negative charge

Electrons are much less tightly bound to the atom than the particles in the nucleus so they can move to another material. The force of friction causes this transfer of electrons from one material to the other.

Sparks happen when electrons move, in either direction, to balance the difference in charge on the atoms in the material and become neutrally charged once more.

Electrical Circuits

Electricity can flow through the components in a complete electric circuit. We can use symbols to draw circuits.

