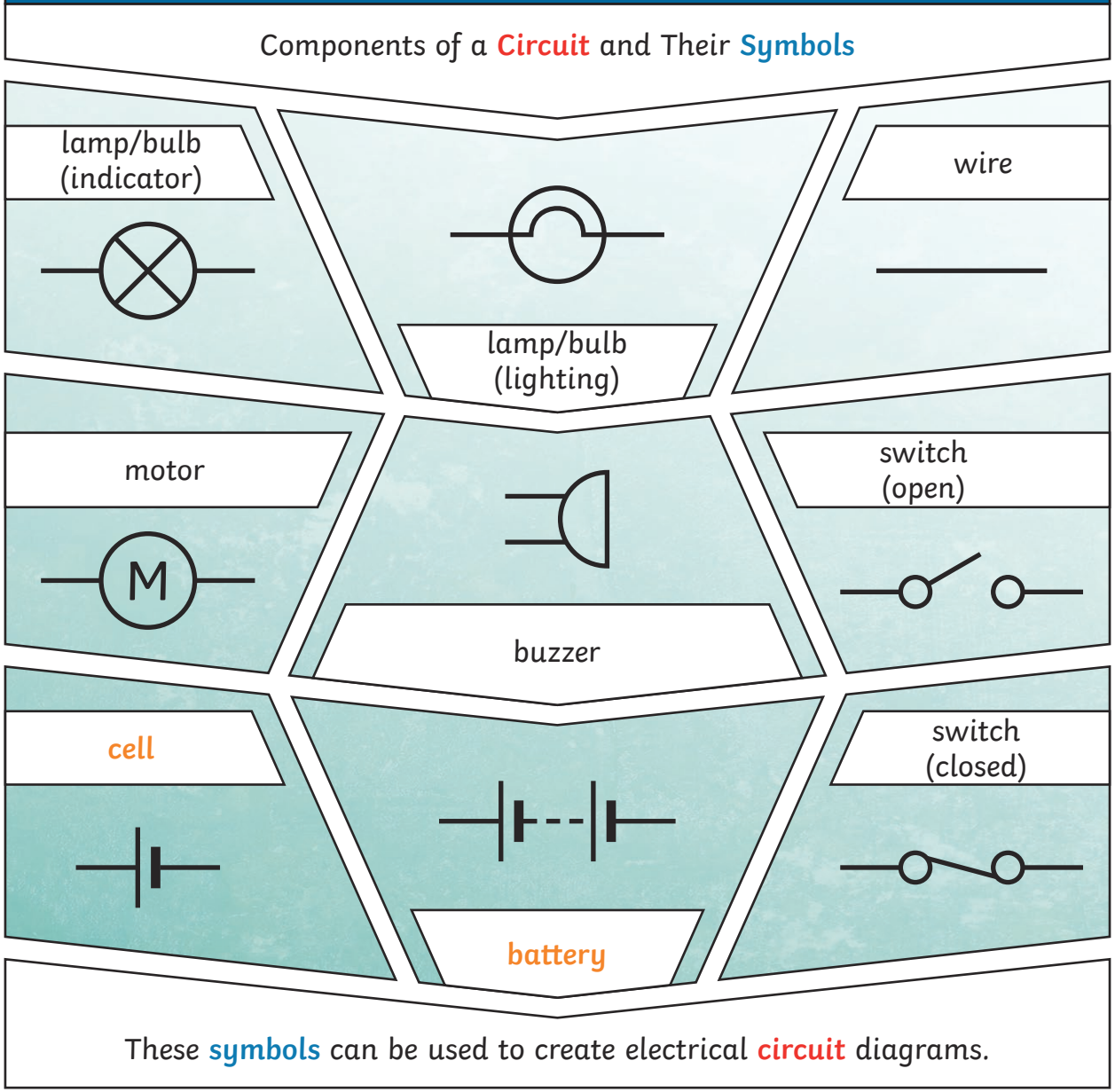
Key Vocabulary

circuit	A path that an electrical current can flow around.
symbol	A visual picture that stands for something else.
cell/battery	A device that stores energy as a chemical until it is needed. A cell is a single unit. A battery is a collection of cells.
current	The flow of electrons, measured in amps.
amps	How electric current is measured.
voltage	The force that makes the electric current move through the wires. The greater the voltage, the more current will flow.
resistance	The difficulty that the electric current has when flowing around a circuit.
electrons	Very small particles that travel around an electrical circuit.

Key Knowledge

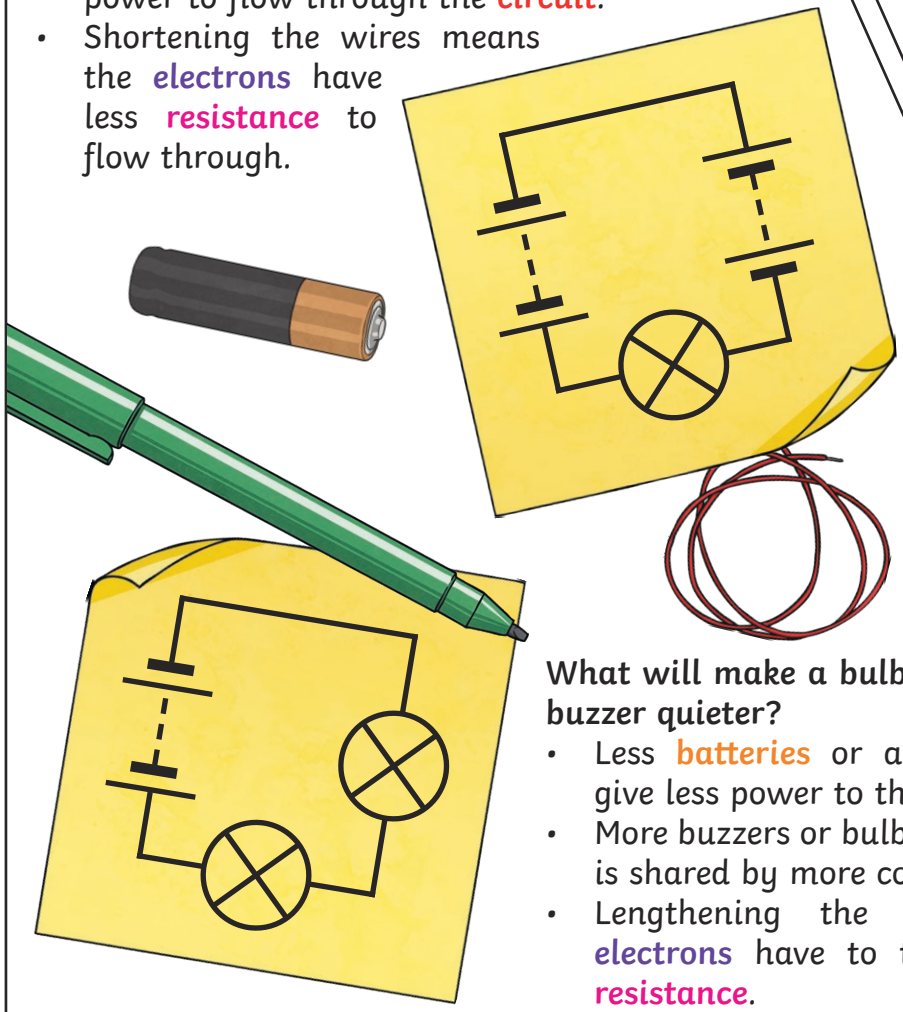


To look at all the planning resources linked to the Electricity unit, click here.

Key Knowledge

What will make a bulb brighter or a buzzer louder?

- More batteries or a higher voltage create more power to flow through the circuit.
- Shortening the wires means the electrons have less resistance to flow through.



What will make a bulb dimmer or a buzzer quieter?

- Less batteries or a lower voltage give less power to the circuit.
- More buzzers or bulbs mean the power is shared by more components.
- Lengthening the wires means the electrons have to travel through more resistance.

Series Circuit

A circuit that has only one route for the current to take. If more bulbs or buzzers are added, the power has to be shared and so they will be dimmer or quieter. If just one part of this series circuit breaks, the circuit is broken and the flow of current stops.