Electricity	Carclaze Primary School Science Knowledge Organiser	Year 4 

Prior learning to reactivate
This is the first time this subject is taught within the Primary Curriculum. • Electricity is used to power things. • Electricity is needed for lights to work.

Key learning
Common appliances run on electricity.
Construct a simple circuit and name the basic parts.
A simple circuit is a complete loop with a battery that lights a bulb.
Switches open and close circuits.
Conductors allow electricity to pass through and insulators do not allow electricity to pass through.
Metals are good conductors of electricity.

Key vocabulary	
Circuit	A complete path around which electricity can flow
Conductor	Substances that an electric charge can pass through without difficulty
Insulator	Substances that an electric charge cannot pass through easily.
Cell	A device used to generate electricity, e.g. a battery
Break	A break in the circuit prevents the current of electricity flowing.
Switches	Turns the electricity on or off, stopping the electrical current from flowing
Bulb	Uses the electrical energy to light up

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SCIENTIFIC SKILLS

By the end of the year, children should be able to...

- Ask their own questions relating to the topic
- Make predictions about the outcomes of investigations
- Set up simple practical investigations
- Be able to identify simple ways in which a fair test can be created
- Make simple observations, including through the use of a range of recording/measurement equipment
- Gather and record data
- Present data in a variety of ways, including diagrams, charts, tables, and graphs
- Draw simple conclusions on results and link back to the theory discussed
- Suggest improvements for further investigations

Opportunities for scientific enquiry within the unit:

- Observing patterns e.g. bulbs get brighter the more cells added.
- Investigate which materials can and cannot be used to connect across a gap in a circuit and explain why.