

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE



Lesson Plan



Moving Electrons

Lesson Plan for *Electricity*

Grade 1

Objective

To help students understand the differences between a conductor and an insulator.

Things Needed

- *Electricity* book
- A large, clear space for playing an active game

Before the Activity

Clear space in the room for an active game. Read Chapter 2 (“Moving Electrons”) of *Electricity* out loud to the students.

Activity

To start, review the terms *electricity*, *electron*, *conductor*, and *insulator*.

- What is an electron? (Answer: Electrons are tiny, moving parts of atoms.)
- What is electricity? (Answer: Electricity is the energy of moving electrons.)
- What is a conductor? (Answer: A conductor is a material where electrons can zip away from their atoms. Electricity moves easily through conductors.)
- What is an insulator? (Answer: An insulator is a material where electrons stay close to their atoms. Electricity cannot move through insulators.)

Then, announce that you will play a variation of red light, green light. Ask students to imagine that they are the moving electrons in electricity. Have students line up at one end of the clear space. Explain that the opposite end is the “light bulb,” or finish line. The students (or electrons) must try to reach the light bulb and turn it on. When you say the word *conductor*, the students will begin moving toward the finish line. When you say *insulator*, everyone must immediately stop. If students are still moving when you call *insulator*, they must go back to the starting line.



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Evaluation

Continue calling words until all the electrons (students) make it across the finish line. At that point, the light bulb will turn on, and everyone wins.

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the National Science Education Standards' Content Standard B, grades K–4, and the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.3).



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