



Driving Question:

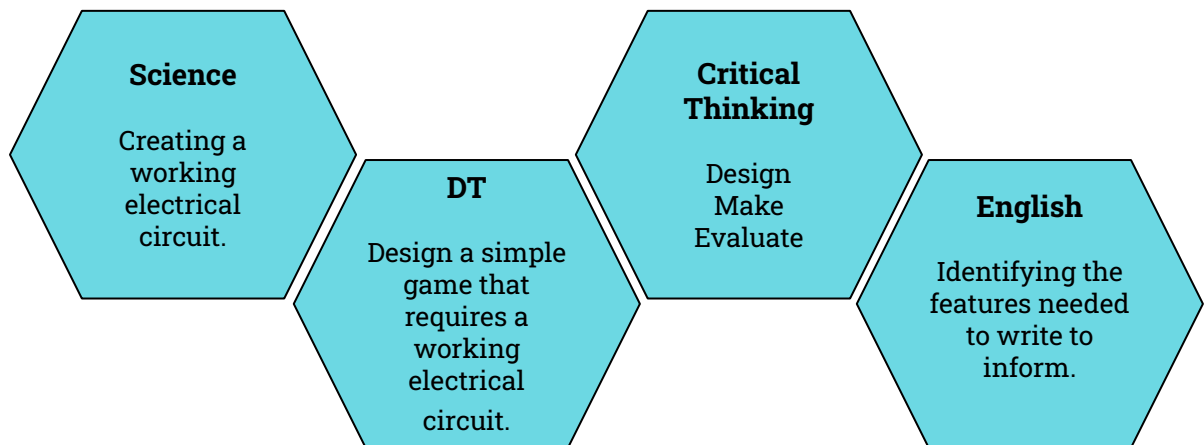
**How can we, as game engineers, improve upon an existing electrical game?**

Launch:

In our first week back, we are going to investigate and explore different electrical components to make a working circuit using bulbs, buzzers, wires and cells.

Overview:

In our new topic, we will be taking on the role of a gaming engineer, applying our knowledge of electrical circuits to recreate an electrical buzzer game. Working in small groups, we will collaborate to design, make and evaluate a new game developing our critical thinking skills.



Vocabulary:

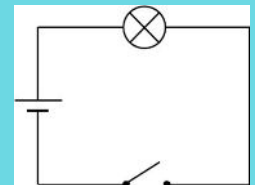
electrical circuit  
current  
positive  
negative  
complete  
conductor  
insulator  
bulb  
switches  
buzzers  
wires

Learning conversations to have at home:

**Safely explore household items with your child. Which items contain an electrical circuit? Discuss how we can ensure that we are safe around electrics at home? Identify different household items and discuss if they need an electric circuit to function: toaster, remote control, TV, torch, lights. Share that the use of a switch / button acts as a circuit breaker and will turn the object on / off.**  
[Play this game where you can explore and identify dangers with electrics.](#)

**Discuss with your child what components you need to make a working circuit?**

*To make a complete circuit, you would need to have a cell, wires and a bulb/buzzer connected in series.*



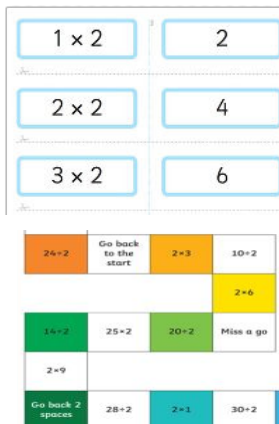
Topic Home learning:

As game designers, your challenge is to create a game for Year 3!

**Design brief:** Design a game to improve your times tables.

**Audience:** Year 3 children. This game can be on a board, cards or a quiz!

Please hand in on or before:  
Monday 23rd January



Future Careers:

We will discuss the skills needed to be a games designer and the marketing team that is needed to promote popular games.

Landing:

We are going to have a Year 4 games exhibition. Once we have designed and created our game, we will share it with our audience (Year 3) who will trial them and give us feedback.

## Reading

This term our key text is *'Leon and the Place Between,'* by Angela McAllister. This book of mystery will transport us to a world of magic and beyond. A beautifully illustrated text that will grab the children's attention.

What lessons can we learn from Leon?

Have you ever been to a circus or a fairground?



What is your favourite part of this story?

What Jewell learning skill does Leon demonstrate most?

## English

- ★ Writing to inform through a newspaper report
- ★ Inverted Commas
- ★ Paragraphs

### How can you help at home?

- Look at a newspaper with your child at home. What features do you notice?
- [BBC Bitesize - Inverted Commas](#)
- [BBC Bitesize - Paragraphs](#)

## Maths

- ★ Multiplication
- ★ Area and Perimeter
- ★ Fractions
- ★ Decimals

### How can you help at home?

- Encourage your child to participate in our weekly TTRockstar tournament between classes.
- Take a look at your garden or an outside space. Can you estimate or measure the area and perimeter?

## Science

We are learning to identify and construct simple series circuits including switches as well as obtaining knowledge about insulators and conductors.

## Geography

We are learning to further our knowledge of physical geography. We will be describing and understanding the key aspects of volcanoes.

## Music

We are learning to play a simple chord progression for a pop song on a ukulele. (C, Am, F and G chord).

## PSHE

We are learning all about 'Dreams and Goals' and how to set them.

## Art

We are learning to develop and improve the technique of monoprinting.

## Computing

We will be completing our learning, to design, write and debug programmes.

## Design and Technology

We are learning how to make manually controlled, simple circuits with buzzers.

## Physical Education

We are learning 'Net and Wall' games particularly about movement as well as 'Dance'.

## French

We are learning about basic vocabulary and phrases in French which relate Les Romains.

## Religious Education

We will be exploring the question: Could Buddha's teachings make the world a better place?

## Dates for the diary

Tuesday 3rd January - INSET Day.