

Student Home Guide: Insulators and Conductors

Explore and understand the types of materials that are used around the home as insulators and conductors, how some of these materials are used, and why they are good choices.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Get together with one or more partners (parent, guardian, older brother or sister). Follow each of the instructions below, and write your comments in the space provided. You should search around your home for your examples and discuss what you write with your partner(s), but you should do the actual writing!

- (1) Identify and list at least three examples of materials around your home that are used to conduct energy. Beside each, describe how it is used.
- (2) Identify and list at least three examples of materials around your home that are used to insulate against transfer of energy. Beside each, describe how it is used.
- (3) Pick three of the six materials listed in numbers 1 and 2 above. Be sure that the three you pick include at least one conductor and at least one insulator. List your selections below. For each, decide why you and your partner(s) think this type of material is particularly good at "doing its job." Beside each type of material, explain your decision beside each material you listed.

