Graphite Pencil Circuit

You will need:

Tape

Minimum 6B graphite pencil Paper or card Small LED 9V battery



Instructions

Use the graphite pencil to draw a design on a piece of card or paper.

Leave a gap in two places. One for the battery ends and one for the LED legs.

Attach the LED using tape to one gap in the circuit.

Place the battery over the second gap. The positive end of the battery needs to be in the same segment of circuit as the long leg (positive end) of the LED.

How does it work?

Graphite is made up of carbon atoms with delocalised electrons which are able to move through the graphite. The electrons allow graphite to conduct electricity.

Graphite is an allotrope of carbon made up of layers of carbon atoms. The layers can slide over each other so it is soft and a perfect material for pencils! Another allotrope of carbon is diamond!

