

**ITQ ARTS AND SCIENCE INTEGRATION  
GRADE 4  
DANCE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

**Get Your Motor Running: Circuits and Motors  
Lesson 2**

**CONTENT STANDARDS**

**Dance**

**1.4** Explain the principles of variety, contrast, and unity and apply to a dance sequence.

**Physical Science**

**PS1a** Students know how to design and build simple series and parallel circuits by using components such as wires, batteries, and bulbs.

**PS1g** Students know electrical energy can be converted into heat, light and motion.

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS** (*Questions that students might ask about the topic*)

- What are open and closed circuits and how do I show the difference between the two using contrasting movement?
- What does a motor do in a circuit and how do I show it through movement?
- How does movement help me understand open and closed circuits?
- How does dance help me understand how a motor changes electrical energy into motion?

**OBJECTIVES & STUDENT OUTCOMES** (*Students will be able to.....*)

- make movement choices as they explore the flow of electricity through open and closed circuits.

**ASSESSMENT** (*Various strategies to evaluate effectiveness of instruction and student learning*)

- **Feedback for Teacher**
  - Student response to inquiry
  - Student performance
  - Student schematic diagram of a motor
- **Feedback for Student**
  - Teacher feedback
  - Peer feedback
  - Videotape feedback

**WORDS TO KNOW**

**Dance**

- **Contrast:** To set side-by-side to emphasize differences. In dance this could be represented as opposites such as high/low, fast/slow or heavy/light, sharp/smooth, etc.

**Science**

- **Circuit:** A pathway for the flow of electricity.
- **Closed circuit:** A complete circuit through which electricity flows.
- **Motor:** A component in a circuit that converts electric energy to motion energy.
- **Open circuit:** An incomplete circuit through which electricity will not flow.
- **Switch:** A device used to open and close circuits.

**MATERIALS**

- Handouts from the *FOSS Teacher Handbook*, "Science Notebook Masters," pg. 239 (Lighting

Bulbs), pg. 241

- Schematic Diagram Showing a Battery, Switch, and Motor (attached)
- “Making a Motor Run” – Steps (chart to post, included)
- Music – *Music for Creative Dance* by Eric Chappelle
- CD Player
- Video camera and monitor
- Science notebooks (one per student)

## RESOURCES

- *FOSS Kit Grade 4*, “Physical Science: Magnetism and Electricity,” Investigation 2, Parts 2, 3 and 4.
- *Music for Creative Dance* by Eric Chappelle

## PREPARATION

- Have schematic diagram showing a battery, switch, and motor ready.
- Have masters ready and if doing the extension.
- Have “Making a Motor Run” steps sheet ready to display.
- Ample space to rehearse and demonstrate exercises.

## WARM UP *(Engage students, access prior learning, review, hook or activity to focus the student for learning)*

(3 minutes)

- Post vocabulary words or chart as they are presented: **contrast, circuit, open circuit, closed circuit, switch, motor**
  - Review the exercise from the guided practice section from Lesson #1: the flow of electricity through a D-cell, the positive and negative poles, and the pathway of electric energy.

## MODELING *(Presentation of new material, demonstration of the process, direct instruction)*

(15 minutes)

- Introduce vocabulary.
- Have students define **circuit**.
  - *Say: In the last lesson we said that electric energy flows from point A to point B in a pathway and today we name that pathway. It is called a **circuit**. A **circuit** is a complete pathway through which electricity flows.*
  - *Say: We want to create a **circuit** to light a bulb.*
  - *Ask: What are the parts we will need to create a one-wire **circuit**? [Energy source, wires, and a light bulb].*
- Define **switch**.
  - *Say: A **switch** is used to open and close a **circuit**.*
- Define **open circuit** and **closed circuits**.
  - *Say: An **open circuit** is an incomplete circuit. The flow of electricity is stopped because the pathway has been broken. A **closed circuit** is a complete circuit because electricity flows without interruption.*
- Teach gestures and a chant to represent the **switch**, and **open** and **closed circuits**.
  - **Closed Circuit** Chant: **Switch** closed, **circuit** complete, electricity flows.
  - Gesture: clap hands together and hold, clasp fingers, wave the arms and body.
  - Repeat gestures and chant several times.
  - Option: Call and response to practice throughout the week:
    - Teacher says: *When I say closed you say flows. Closed.*
    - Student responds “flows”.
    - Teacher repeats *closed*.
    - Student responds “flows”.
  - **Open Circuit** Chant: **Switch** open, **circuit** incomplete, electricity stops.

- Gestures: Flip hands up with elbows bent and hold, drop the left hand, then extend right arm. Push flexed hand.
- Option: Call and response to practice throughout the week:
  - Teacher says: *When I say open you say stop. Open.*
  - Students respond “stop”.
  - Teacher repeats *open*.
  - Students respond “stop”.
- Ask/Say:
  - *What do we notice about the words open and closed?* [Open and closed are opposites.]
  - *What conclusion can we make about **open** and **closed circuits**?* [In a **closed circuit** the **circuit** is complete and the electricity flows. In an **open circuit** the **circuit** is incomplete and electricity stops.]
  - *What do we notice about the role of the **switch** in a **circuit**?* [The **switch** closes or opens the **circuit**. It also works in opposition. When the **switch** is closed, the **circuit** is complete, electricity flows. When the **switch** is open the **circuit** is incomplete, electricity stops.]
  - *What do we notice about the gestures we use to show **closed** and **open circuits**?* [The gestures are opposites. The **closed circuit** shape is curved or round and closed and flowing, the **open circuit** shape is broken and straight.]
  - *Say: In dance, we use the word “**contrast**” for movements that look very different from each other.*
- Exercise One: The one-wire **circuit** with bulb. (Post illustration pg. 112 in the *FOSS Teacher Guide*.)
  - *Say: Let’s use our bodies to create a model of a one-wire **circuit** to light a bulb.* (Refer to illustration.)
  - *Ask: What do we need to create this **circuit**?* [D-cell, one wire, and a light bulb]
  - As a group, ask students to set up the **circuit** using their bodies as the parts (done in lesson #1). Allow 60 seconds for students to think, make suggestions and create.
  - Choose one student to be the light bulb.
    - *Ask: How can you show me with your body, a light bulb that is lit and not lit?*
    - Have student demonstrate.
  - Ask:
    - *Where should we place the light bulb in this **circuit**?* [Place the light bulb at the positive pole of the D-cell.]
    - *What will happen to this light bulb when the **circuit** is closed?* [The bulb will light up.]
  - *Say: I will act as the **switch**, opening and closing the circuit.*
  - Say the **closed circuit** chant. Play music and perform for 15 seconds.
  - Disconnect a few students from the negative end of the D-cell.
  - Say the **open circuit** chant. Music stops and everyone freezes.
  - Repeat the exercise two more times.
    - *Ask: The bulb converted the electric energy into what other form of energy?* [Light and heat energy because light bulbs get hot when they are turned on.]

**GUIDED PRACTICE** (*Application of knowledge, problem solving, corrective feedback*)  
(24 minutes)

- Have students define **motor**.
  - Say:
    - *We have already shown you what a single wire circuit looks like. Now you are going to make a circuit with a motor that will convert electricity into motion.* (Refer to diagram on page 118 in the *FOSS Teacher Guide*.)
  - Demonstrate a frozen shape to represent a motor that is not running. Move your body or a body part to represent the motor in motion. Give several examples (swinging an arm, twisting the body, twisting and lifting a leg, tilting, chopping, bending knees or bending at the waist, etc.).

- Say (simultaneously with the demonstration): *When I am still the switch is open and the circuit is incomplete (hold shape). When the switch is closed the circuit is complete, I will move my body.*
- Ask: *What parts will we need to make our motor operate?* [You will need a battery, two wires, a **switch**, and a **motor**.]
- Setting up the Motor Demonstration:
- Post a copy of the schematic drawing for a motor (pg. 314 in the FOSS Teacher Handbook). Review the parts and how the switch opens and closes the **circuit**.
- Say:
  - *In your groups, you will create this schematic **circuit** with your bodies.*
  - *Students who are representing the wires will be at a low level.*
  - *The student as the D-cell will be at a medium level.*
  - *The student as the **switch** will be higher than the D-cell but lower than the motor.*
  - *The student as the motor will be standing at a high level.*
  - *When we use different levels like this in dance we create **contrast**. It makes a dance more interesting.*
    1. Arrange students into groups of ten.
    2. One student will create the D-cell.
    3. One student will create the **motor**.
    4. Seven students will create the wires (two per each short wire, three for the long wire).
    5. One student will be the **switch**.
- Demonstration: Making a Motor Run (Post the list of steps and review them before starting the dance.)
  1. Everyone begins in an opening shape in stillness. (Start videotaping)
  2. The observers and the **switch** start the exercise by performing the chant.
  3. The **switch** must create a movement to close the **circuit**.
  4. The wires show the movement of electricity by bumping beginning at the negative end of the D-cell through the wires, to the motor and back to the D-cell.
  5. The **motor** creates and performs movement. (Note: Steps 4 and 5 happen almost simultaneously.)
  6. Demonstrate to music for 15 seconds.
  7. Stop the music. The observers and student **switch** perform the chant to open the **circuit**. The **switch** creates a **contrasting** movement to open the **circuit**. The electricity and **motor** stops (ends in stillness).
  8. Repeat exercise two or three more times to music.

**DEBRIEF AND EVALUATE** (*Identify problems encountered, ask and answer questions, discuss solutions and learning that took place. Did students meet expected outcomes?*)  
(8 minutes)

- View videotape and discuss.
- Ask:
  - *What is causing the motor to move?* [The motor is put into action by the flow of electricity through the complete circuit.]
  - *What does a **motor** do in a **circuit**?* [A **motor** converts electric energy into motion.]
  - *What is the role of the **switch**?* [A **switch** controls the flow of electricity by opening (making the circuit incomplete) or closing (completing) the **circuit**.]
  - *How did we show **contrast** in the **motor** demonstration?* [**Contrasting** body movements, levels, sizes, and shapes for wires, D-cell, switch and motor.]
- Have students respond to the following exit questions in their science notebooks: (Students may work independently, in pairs or small groups.)
  - *Draw a schematic of a D-cell and a motor.*
  - What did you learn about **circuits**?
  - What did you learn about **motors**? [**Motors** need electrical energy, hooked to D-cell by

wires, a **switch** closes the **circuit** which starts the flow of electricity. The **motor** converts electrical energy into motion. The **switch** opens the **circuit** and everything stops.]

- How did movement help you understand open and closed circuits?
- How did dance help you understand how a motor changes electrical energy into motion?

**EXTENSION** (*Expectations created by the teacher that encourages students to participate in further research, make connections and apply understanding and skills previously learned to personal experiences.*)

- **Ask:**
  - *What do you think will happen if the wires in our **circuits** are replaced by a piece of plastic like a straw or a rubber band?* [The electricity won't flow because plastic and rubber are not made of metal.]
  - *If the electricity will not flow, what kind of a **circuit** would we have?* [**open circuit**]
  - *What can we conclude about plastic and rubber as **conductors** of electricity?* [Plastic and rubber will not conduct electricity.]
- **Say:** *Plastic and rubber are called **insulators**. Electricity does not flow through **insulators**.*
- **Ask:**
  - *How are objects that conduct electricity and objects that stick to magnets alike?* [All metals are **conductors**. Only iron sticks to a magnet.]
- Have students complete handouts from the FOSS, "Science Notebook Masters," pg. 239 (Lighting Bulbs), pg. 241 (Response Sheet "Making Connections"), and pg. 242 (Conductors and Insulators).

## MAKING A MOTOR RUN Steps

1. Begin in still opening shape
2. Perform chant. Switch closed (perform a shape), circuit complete
3. Electricity flows (pass the bump) and the motor moves
4. Music stops, Perform the chant. Switch open (create a contrasting shape), circuit incomplete, electricity stops
5. All motion ceases