Grade 6 Understanding Matter and Energy Electricity and Electrical Devices

## SERIES VS. PARALLEL

## A Template for Building a Series Circuit


playdough


LED light bulb

wire

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## SERIES VS. PARALLEL

A Template for Building a Parallel Circuit


## SERIES VS. PARALLEL

| My Observation <br> Chart | What happened to the lights? <br> (Did the light bulbs stay lit? If yes, were they brighter, <br> dimmer, or as bright as before?)   <br>    <br> Line A was cut.   <br> Series circuit   <br> Line B was cut.   | Line C was cut. |
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## SERIES VS. PARALLEL

## More About Series Circuits and Parallel Circuits

As mentioned in the experiment, the components in a circuit can be connected in two ways: series and parallel. Each type of circuit has its advantages and disadvantages.


## Series Circuit

- allows electricity to follow exactly one path that connects all components
- all components stop working if any one of them fails
- devices cannot be turned on or off individually
- the speed of electrical flow (current) is the same for all components
- efficient for sending electricity over long distances


Parallel Circuit

- different components are connected to different branches of the wires
- other components continue to work even if one fails
- devices can be turned on or off individually
- the electrical power (voltage) is the same for all devices
- efficient for distributing power to multiple devices

