



# EMPIRIBOX

## Primary School Science

Empiribox is dedicated to science and improving the science education in primary schools.

In this investigation, children will investigate how many things in the classroom use electricity and what their power source is.

Spectacular Science

How Many Things  
Use Electricity?

## Power Sources

There are 2 main power sources in household (or school) appliances.

- 1. Mains electricity**
- 2. Battery power**

Things that are plugged in, like a washing machine, will use main electricity meaning that the energy is being generated by a power station many miles away and transported down energy cables to our homes and schools.

Things that can be used without being plugged in are using battery power, such as a TV remote, meaning that it is getting its energy supply from the battery itself. **Note**, many battery powered things will also need to be plugged into the mains electric supply so that they can charge up, such as a laptop or phone.

## Activity – count how many things in your classrooms use electricity

Take a look around your home or school and see how many things you can find that use electricity. Do they use mains electricity, batteries, or both?

Write them down in the table below. Put a tick in the column that matches how it is powered.

Name of device	Mains	Battery	Both mains and battery