Battery procedure

Aim: To construct a battery using everyday household items

Equipment

- 2 pieces of copper
- 2 nails coated in zinc
- 2 lemons (or other pieces of plant material, such as potatoes)
- 3 pieces of insulated wire with alligator clips or 2 cm of insulation removed from ends
- 1 voltmeter or small LED light globe with two wires

Activity steps

1. To create a positive terminal insert a piece of copper into each lemon.
2. To create a negative terminal insert a nail coated with zinc into each lemon. Do not put it near the copper as the two metals must not touch.
3. Join one end of a piece of insulated wire to one of the pieces of copper, either using the clip or by attaching the non-insulated end.
4. Join the other end of the wire to the nail coated in zinc in the other lemon.
5. Your battery is now ready. Test it using the lemon battery, insulated wires and globe (or voltmeter) to make a circuit.