

Exploring the First Electrical Houses

Key words

Electricity – the flow of electrical power.

Conductor – a material which electricity can pass through, like metal.

Insulator – a material which electricity cannot pass through, like glass.

Dynamo – a machine for generating electricity.

Hydroelectricity – electricity generated by using water to work a dynamo.

Mercury – a metal which is a liquid at room temperature.

‘Arts and Crafts’ – a style of design popular at the end of the Victorian period, which used traditional materials and images from nature.

Vaseline glass – glass which is not entirely see-through, and when used in light fittings will soften the light from the lightbulb.

Upper-class – the wealthiest people in the Victorian period, who normally lived in large houses.

Working-class – the poorest people in the Victorian period, who often worked as servants in large houses.

Call button – a button used to summon servants in large houses.

Call board – a board which showed servants in large houses where they were needed.

Butler – the head servant in a big house, in charge of the other servants.