

Fire detection discussion questions

SCIENCE ACTIVITY 2



Working with your group, discuss the following questions and prepare an agreed, group answer for each one. Marks will be awarded for your group's reasoning.

Question 1 – how might a fire detection system that does not rely on electrical circuits work?

In the days before electricity do you think there were there such things as 'fire alarms' that could automatically warn people when a fire broke out? How might these have worked?

Question 2 – which type of sensor is better, digital or analogue?

The input device that activates the fire alarm could be a simple on/off switch (digital). Alternatively the input could be an analogue device that can measure a range of temperatures or toxic gas levels.

Question 3 – how might fire detection systems connected to the internet improve fire safety?

What advantages might be gained by connecting fire detection systems to the internet?