

COPPER CONNECTS US



ACTIVITY | Grades 6–8

Video Topic Series Episode: Overview

Overview

Throughout *Copper Connects Us*, a five-part Video Topic Series, students will explore how copper is a natural resource essential for helping the world meet its future environmental, economic and societal needs. In this special *Overview* segment, students will be introduced to what copper is and what it is used for, as well as the important role it plays in connecting our world.

The accompanying activity included here will reinforce and extend learning from the video as students further explore some of the many ways copper is used and then create an infographic to visually represent how copper unites and connects us.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- **Analyze** images of items that contain copper as they look for similarities among them
- **Identify** several innovations that rely on copper and **describe** the role it plays in each one
- **Design** an infographic that educates others about these innovations and explains how copper connects us

Materials*

- Copper Connects Us: Overview video, to show students
- Investigate Activity Sheet, one per student
- Copper Connects Us Activity Sheet, enough for one-quarter of the class
- Devices with internet access, enough for half the class
- Printer paper and art supplies, for the class to share if they will be creating paper vs. digital infographics

*Estimated average cost as of 2024: \$15–20 (for classes who choose to make paper vs. digital infographics)

Engage

- Begin by distributing an **Investigate Activity Sheet** to each student.
- Help students form groups of three or four. Then encourage each group to review the images on their handouts and brainstorm what they have in common.
- After a few minutes of brainstorming, invite students to share their ideas.
- If needed, help them understand that among other similarities they may have found, each of these items contains copper!

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Activity | Grades 6–8

Investigate & View

- Tell students that they are about to watch a video called *Copper Connects Us* where they will learn about what copper is, why it is important and where else it can be found.
- Instruct students to use the blank space around the images on their **Investigate Activity Sheet** to jot down other innovations that use copper as they are mentioned in the video.
- Play the **Copper Connects Us: Overview** video.

Apply

- When the video is complete, ask students: Now that you know more about the role copper plays in different innovations, why do you think this video was called “Copper Connects Us”? Encourage students to share their ideas.
- Then ask students to find their group members from the brainstorming activity and distribute one **Copper Connects Us Activity Sheet** to each group.
- Prepare your students to complete the activity by doing the following:
 - Read through the handout’s directions together.
 - Be sure students understand an infographic is a picture or design that explains information in a simple and easy-to-understand way. If needed, it may be helpful to search for “Infographic” in an internet search engine and show students various examples.
 - Explain that groups may perform their own internet research to learn more about the role of copper in different innovations.
 - Tell students whether they should create their infographics using paper and art supplies *or* digitally using free design software like [Canva](https://www.canva.com).
- Then encourage groups to begin their infographic design!
- When there are a few minutes left in the session, bring the class back together. Wrap up by inviting each group to share their infographic and describe how it illustrates copper’s role in connecting us.

National Standards

ISTE STANDARDS

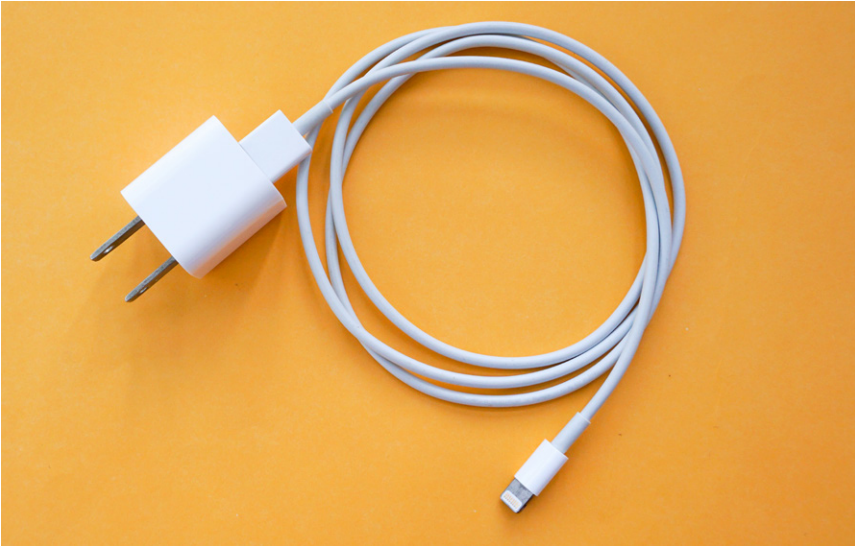
1.3.a: Use effective research strategies to find resources that support their learning needs, personal interests and creative pursuits.

1.6.c: Use digital tools to visually communicate complex ideas to others.

COMMON CORE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.7: Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.



Create an **infographic** that explains how copper connects us!

Your infographic should:

- Showcase at least 5 innovations that depend on copper.
- Provide a brief description of copper’s role in each innovation.
- Visually present these examples in a way that shows how copper connects us.

Use the space below to take notes and organize your ideas. Then create your infographic digitally or by using a separate piece of paper and art supplies!