HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION

Investigation 2: Developing Models

Black box is a general term scientists and engineers use to describe a system that works in mysterious or unknown ways. For most people, a television is a black box. Electricity goes in, and a picture miraculously appears on the screen. Even the cell phone is a black box. We dial a number to speak with a person across the continent, never questioning how this is possible.

What black boxes do you have in or around your home, in your neighborhood, in your car? What black boxes have you read about, seen on TV, or seen in a movie? Make a list with the help of other family members. Be prepared to share your list. Do you think you can come up with any black boxes that no one else will think of?

Black boxes

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