

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Read and order an explanation

- Read *Toaster Explanation*.
- Cut out and put the sections in order so that the explanation makes sense. Watching this video might help you:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYcw_DcZsak

Share your work with a grown-up. Do they agree that the explanation makes sense?

2. Read an imaginative explanation

- Read *Imaginative Toaster Explanation*. This is from a book that gives comic explanations for everyday items.
- Make a diagram that could go with this imaginative explanation. Label your diagram to show the different stages and what each part is doing.

3. Plan and write your own imaginative explanation.

- Choose one of the *Explanation Ideas*.
- Think about how you could explain this thing in an imaginative (and silly!) way. Try your ideas out loud, ideally telling them to somebody else.
- Now try writing them. Read the *Writing Frame* and use the same pattern to explain your idea.
- Challenge yourself to repeat this with other items from *Explanation Ideas*.

Try the Fun-Time Extras

- Make diagrams to go with your writing.
- Choose other things to make up imaginative explanations about. Share your favourites with someone and ask them if they think of their own.

Toaster Explanation

Cut out these paragraphs. Read them and put them in the right order



Then the electricity surges along the path into an **electromagnet**. As the electric current passes through the magnet, it trips the catch that holds down the rack, then... BOING!... The rack springs up and...POP! Out comes tasty toast.

A toaster needs electricity to work...so...check it's plugged in and that the power is switched on. Pop a slice of bread (or 2 if you're hungry!) into the slots in the top. The bread nestles inside the toaster on a rack that is attached to a spring.

As soon as the bimetallic strip and tripping plate touch... POW!... they make an electric circuit, or path.

When the elements heat up, so does a strip inside the toaster. As it is made of two different metals, it's called a **bimetallic strip**. When it gets hot, one of the metal expands more than the other. This makes it bend so it touches the **tripping plate**.

The electricity zooms along tiny wires woven together, called **heating elements**, either side of the bread. They are so hot that they start to glow, heating up the soft bread and turning it into toast.

ZZZZPP! When you pull the toaster handle down, the spring s-t-r-e-t-c-h-e-s and the rack moves down. CLICK! The rack is now locked in position with a small catch.

From 'Before I Met Dudley' – by Roger McGough and Chris Riddell



Imaginative Toaster Explanation

When you put the slices of bread into the toaster and push the handle down, an alarm goes off underground, alerting the toast gnomes who spring into action.

A friendly dragon toasts the bread with his fiery breath (although sometimes he breathes too hard!)

Cog-wheels and conveyor belts, treadmills and telescopes – it's all so simple!

From 'Before I Met Dudley' – by Roger McGough and Chris Riddell

Explanation Ideas

*How could you explain these things?
Use imagination to create it?*

- How an aeroplane flies
- How bagpipes get their distinctive sound
- How a clock ticks
- How stars shine at night
- How large ships keep afloat
- How bubbles get into fizzy drinks.

from 'Until I met Dudley' by Roger McGough and Chris Riddell

Writing Frame

This is how a something works.

When you do something and do something else, a something does something, -ing something who does something.

It's all so simple!

Imaginative Explanation

Write your explanation here.



A large rectangular writing area with a decorative border. The border consists of a repeating pattern of orange zig-zags and black dots. The interior of the rectangle is white and contains 20 horizontal lines, providing a guide for writing.