

How Something Works Project

Students need to work on an object, and explain the process and/or different parts of the object. Work on a poster paper, and present on **17th February (Friday)**.

E.g. a computer

Different parts of a computer:

1. CPU
2. Screen
3. Hard drive
4. Motherboard
5. Keyboard and mouse

Etc...

How it works:

1. First, you provide input when you turn on the computer. Then the system software tells the CPU to start up certain programs and to turn on some hardware devices so that they are ready for more input from you. This whole process is called **booting** up.
2. The next step happens when you choose a program you want to use. You click on the icon or enter a command to start the program. Let's use the example of an **Internet** browser. Once the program has started, it is ready for your instructions. You either enter an address (called a **URL**, which stands for Uniform Resource Locator), or click on an address you've saved already. In either case, the computer now knows what you want it to do. The **browser** software then goes out to find that address, starting up other hardware devices, such as a **modem**, when it needs them. If it is able to find the correct address, the browser will then tell your computer to send the information from the web page over the phone wire or cable to your computer. Eventually, you see the web site you were looking for.
3. If you decide you want to print the page, you click on the printer **icon**. Again, you have provided input to tell the computer what to do. The browser software determines whether you have a printer attached to your computer, and whether it is turned on. It may remind you to turn on the printer, then send the information about the web page from your computer over the cable to the printer, where it is printed out.



Source: <http://www.factmonster.com/ipka/A0774696.html>