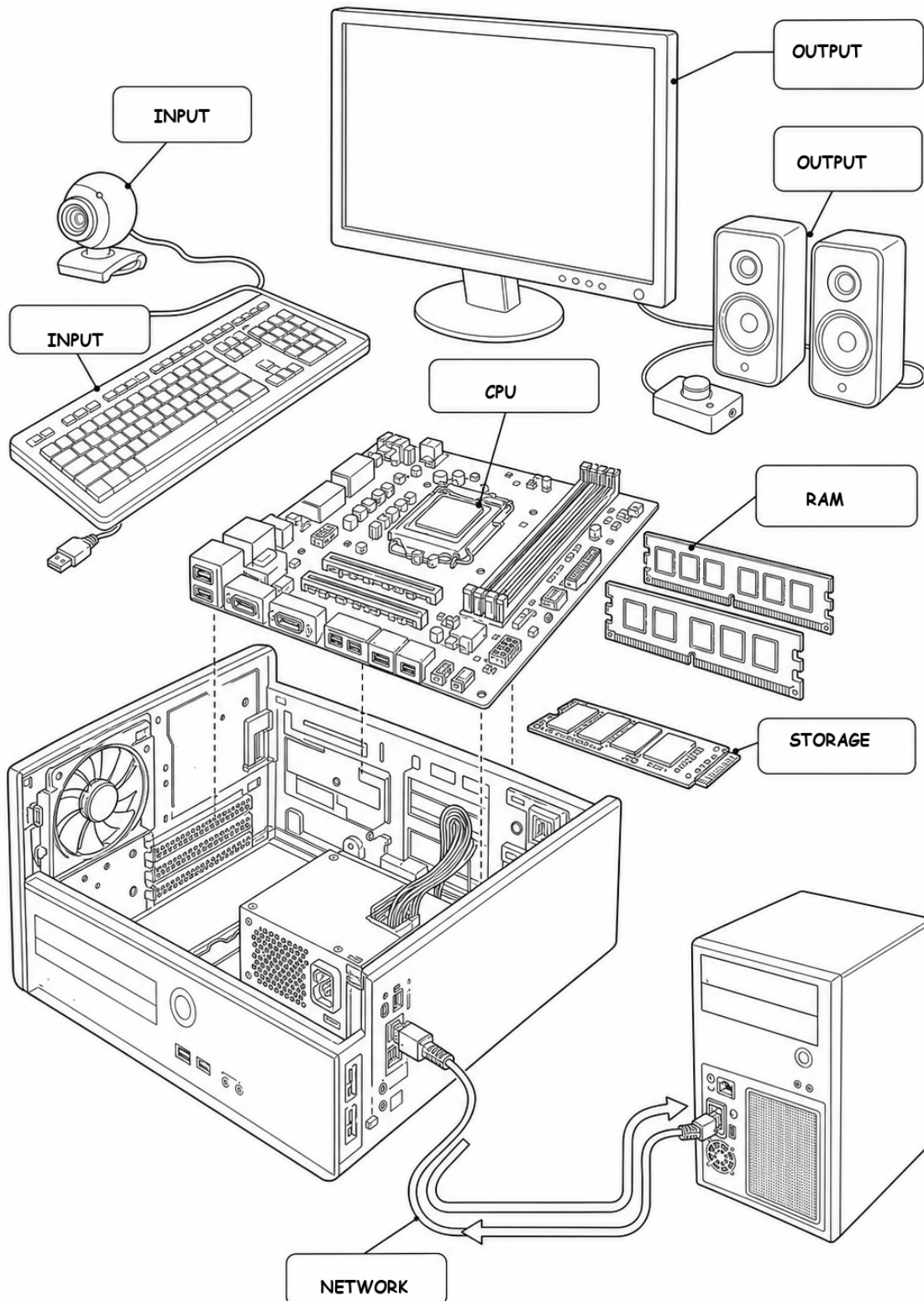


Inside a Computer System

KS3 / Year 7 - Computing

Colour and annotate hardware, software, input, processing, storage, output and network. Trace one instruction and one item of data through the system.



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Parent & Teacher Guidance

Curriculum focus

Topic: Computer systems. Develop accurate observation, subject vocabulary and evidence-based explanation. Mapped scope: KS3 Computing: hardware and software components of computer systems, how they communicate, and how instructions are stored and executed..

Before you begin

Review the picture together and ask the learner what they already notice about Computer systems. Read the activity aloud, explain unfamiliar vocabulary, and agree which details need special attention.

Solo activity

The learner can complete the colouring independently, then use the finished page to explain three details linked to Computer systems. Encourage accurate colour choices where they carry meaning, but allow creative choices elsewhere.

Group activity

Give pairs or small groups different areas to inspect. Ask them to agree on evidence before colouring, compare their findings, and present one curriculum fact to the class. Finish with a whole-group check against the guidance below.

Questions to guide discussion

What evidence can you see? Which feature is most important and why? How does one part connect to another? What new fact about Computer systems can you explain using the picture?

Answers and checking

Hardware: physical components; software: instructions/programs; input: data entering; processing: operations performed, commonly by CPU; storage: retained data and programs; output: information produced; network: connected systems exchanging data. Components interact; the CPU is not the whole computer and storage is not the same as working memory.

Learning record and next steps

☐ Completed the colouring

☐ Explained key vocabulary

☐ Completed the activity

☐ Used visible evidence

Evidence noticed / vocabulary used

Next step:
