

# Crystal Structures

## Apparatus

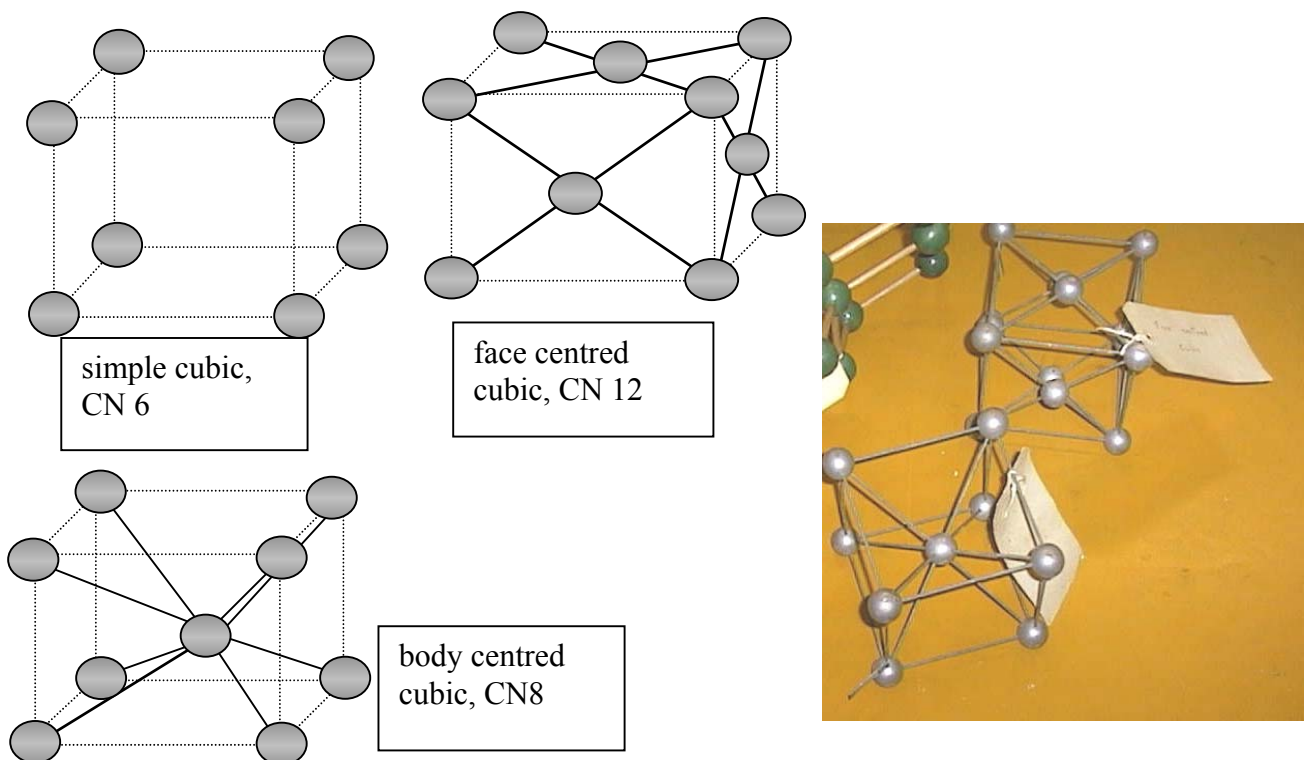
models showing different crystal structures.

## Action

The students observe the crystal structures, and try to identify the basis cell and the coordination number of the crystal.

## The Physics

The basis or unit cell is the smallest repeated cell in a crystal. The coordination number, CN, is the number of nearest neighbour atoms for each atom. Some examples of unit cells are shown below.



## Accompanying sheet

### Crystal Structures

Can you identify the unit cell for the crystal structures shown?

What is the coordination number for each lattice?