



Be the Best We Can

Topic: Light Subject : Science Year: 6 Term:

Buglawton Primary School

What should I already know?

Recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. (Y3 - Light)
 Notice that light is reflected from surfaces. (Y3 - Light)
 Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes. (Y3 - Light)
 Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object. (Y3 - Light)
 Find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change. (Y3 - Light)

What will I know by the end of the unit?

Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines.
 Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye.
 Explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes.
 Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.

What will I be able to do by the end of the unit?

Can describe, with diagrams or models as appropriate, how light travels in straight lines either from sources or reflected from other objects into our eyes
 Can describe, with diagrams or models as appropriate, how light travels in straight lines past translucent or opaque objects to form a shadow of the same shape
 Can explain how evidence from enquiries shows that light travels in straight lines
 Can predict and explain, with diagrams or models as appropriate, how the path of light rays can be directed by reflection to be seen, e.g. the reflection in car rear view mirrors or in a periscope
 Can predict and explain, with diagrams or models as appropriate, how the shape of shadows can be varied

Agreed Real-life Outcome

Investigate the shape of shadows and link this to light travelling in straight lines.

Key Vocabulary	
light	A form of energy that travels in a wave from a source.
light source	An object that makes its own light.
reflection	Reflection is when light bounces off a surface, changing the direction of a ray of light.
incident ray	A ray of light that hits a surface.
reflected ray	A ray of light that has bounced back after hitting a surface.
the law of reflection	The law states that the angle of the incident ray is equal to the angle of the reflected ray.

Key Knowledge

We need light to be able to see things. Light waves travel out from sources of light in straight lines. These lines are often called rays or beams of light.

Light from the sun travels in a straight line and hits the chair. The light ray is then reflected off the chair and travels in a straight line to the girl's eye, enabling her to see the chair.

The law of reflection states that the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection. Whenever light is reflected from a surface, it obeys this law.

The angle of reflection is the angle between the normal line and the reflected ray light.

The angle of incidence is the angle between the normal line and the incident ray of light.

Light travels as a wave. But unlike waves of water or sound waves, it does not need a medium to travel through. This means light can travel through a vacuum - a completely airless space.

Key Vocabulary	
refraction	This is when light bends as it passes from one medium to another. E.g. Light bends when it moves from air into water.
visible spectrum	Light that is visible to the human eye. It is made up of a colour spectrum.
prism	A prism is a solid 3D shape with flat sides. The two ends are an equal shape and size. A transparent prism separates out visible light into all the colours of the spectrum.
shadow	An area of darkness where light has been blocked.
transparent	Describes objects that let light travel through them easily, meaning you can see through the object.
translucent	Describes objects that things let some light through, but scatters the light so we can't see through them properly.
opaque	Describes objects that do not let any light pass through them.

Key Knowledge

Isaac Newton shone a light through a transparent prism, separating out light into the colours of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet) - the colours of the spectrum. All the colours together merge and make visible light.

The spoon in this water looks as if it is bent. This is because light bends when it moves from air to water. When light bends in this way, it is called refraction.

A shadow is always the same shape as the object that casts it. This is because when an opaque object is in the path of light travelling from a light source, it will block the light rays that hit it, while the rest of the light can continue travelling.

Shadows can also be elongated or shortened depending on the angle of the light source. A shadow is also larger when the object is closer to the light source. This is because it blocks more of the light.

To look at all the planning resources linked to the Light unit, [click here](#)

Assessment:

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Cold task: go through vocabulary: What do they know?

Record on post it notes and add to group books

Hot task: update what they know regarding the vocabulary.

Complete Headstart topic test and add in a pocket of group books.

Complete Headstart term tests: end of Autumn, Spring and Summer. Add data to DC PRO

