


Science

What colour is light?

Isaac Newton

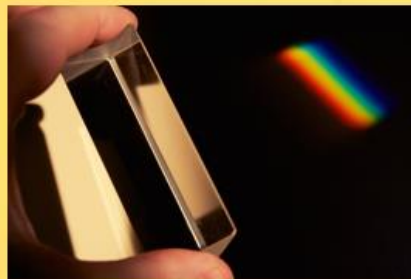


In 1666, Newton made a discovery about light that led him to develop his Theory of Colour, a theory that still informs our understanding of light today.

He placed a prism in front of ray of light, and his observations were incredible.

This is what Isaac Newton observed, and it made him realise that although light looks white, it is actually made up of all the colours of the rainbow!

When these colours merge together, it looks white to our eyes. But we can use a prism to separate the different colours of the spectrum, as you have just demonstrated.



Websites to look at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lil4co0z7QA>

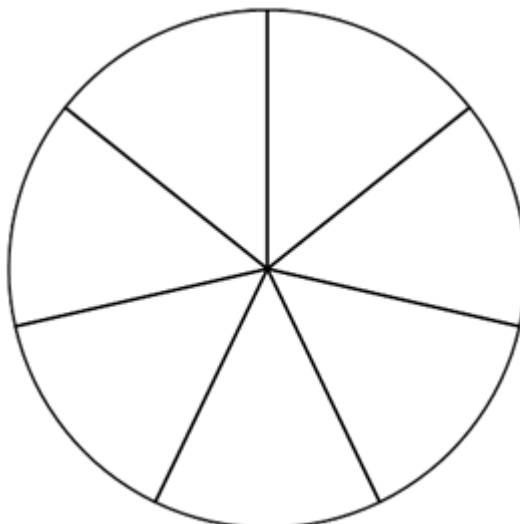
Your Task

Enjoy creating your own spectrum wheel!

Can you remember the colours of the rainbow?

Some people remember them using this mnemonic:

Richard **O**f **Y**ork **G**ained **B**attle **I**n **V**ain



Colour Wheel Instructions

1. Colour each section a colour from the spectrum - the first section will be red, the next one will be orange, then yellow etc.
2. Cut out your colour wheel and draw around it on some cardboard.
3. Cut out the cardboard circle, then stick your colour wheel to it (colours facing out so you can see them!)
4. Make 2 small holes near the centre of your colour wheel.
5. Thread a 1m length of string through the holes, and tie the ends together.
6. Move the wheel along the string so it is in the middle.
7. Turn the string over again and again, like you would turn a skipping rope.
8. Pull the string tight to make the wheel spin!