



Key Vocabulary

light	A form of energy that travels in a wave from a source.
light source	An object that makes its own light .
dark	Dark is the absence of light .
reflection	The process where light hits the surface of an object and bounces back into our eyes.
reflect	To bounce off.
reflective	A word to describe something which reflects light well.
ray	Waves of light are called light rays . They can also be called beams.

Key Knowledge

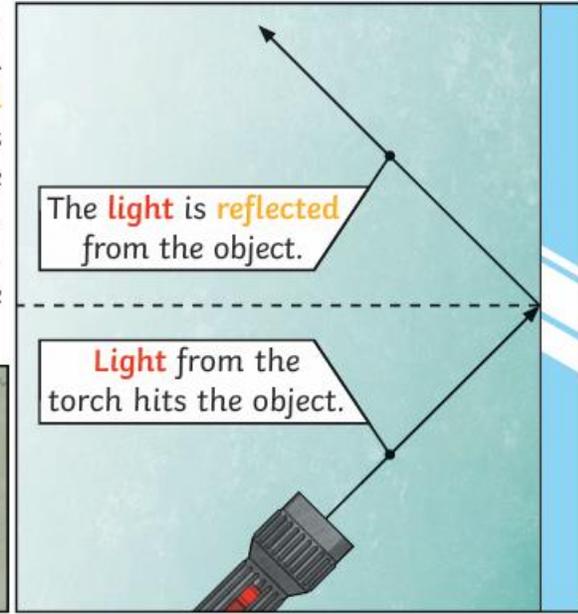
We need **light** to be able to see things. **Light** travels in a straight line. When **light** hits an object, it is **reflected** (bounces off). If the **reflected light** hits our eyes, we can see the object. Some surfaces and materials **reflect light** well. Other materials do not **reflect light** well. **Reflective** surfaces and materials can be very useful...



hi-vis jacket



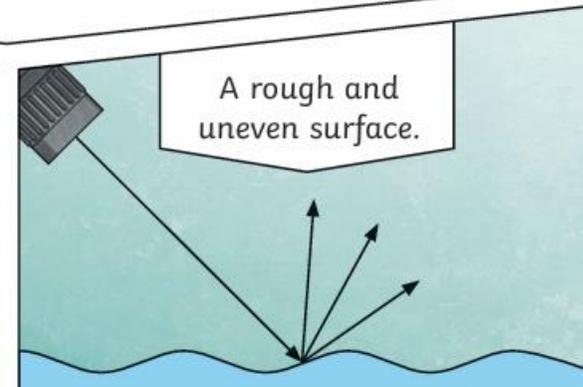
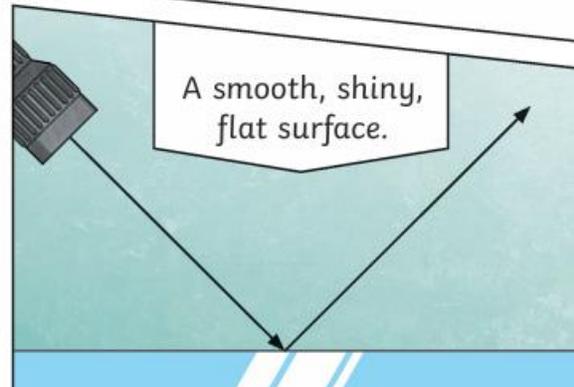
cat's eyes



Mirrors **reflect light** very well, so they create a clear image. An image in a mirror appears to be reversed. For example, if you look in a mirror and raise your right hand, the mirror image appears to raise its left hand.



The surfaces that reflect **light** best are smooth, shiny and flat.





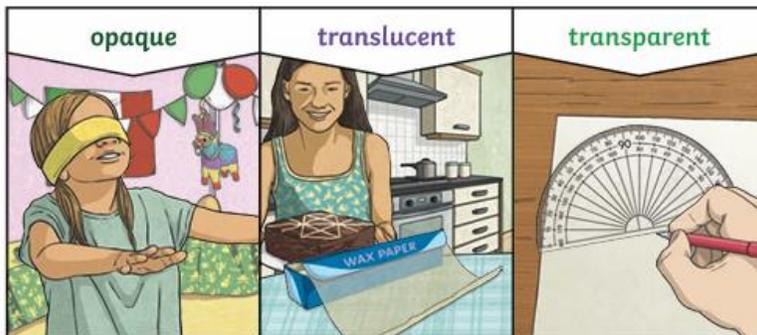
As a Scientist...

Light

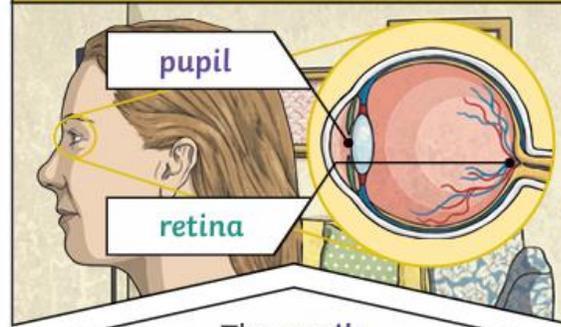
Year 3

Key Vocabulary

pupil	The black part of the eye which lets light in.
retina	A layer at the very back of the eye. The retina takes the light the eye receives. It then changes it into nerve signals to send to the brain.
shadow	An area of darkness where light has been blocked.
opaque	Describes objects that do not let any light pass through them.
translucent	Describes objects that let some light through, but scatter the light so we can't see through them properly.
transparent	Describes objects that let light travel through them easily, meaning that you can see through the object.

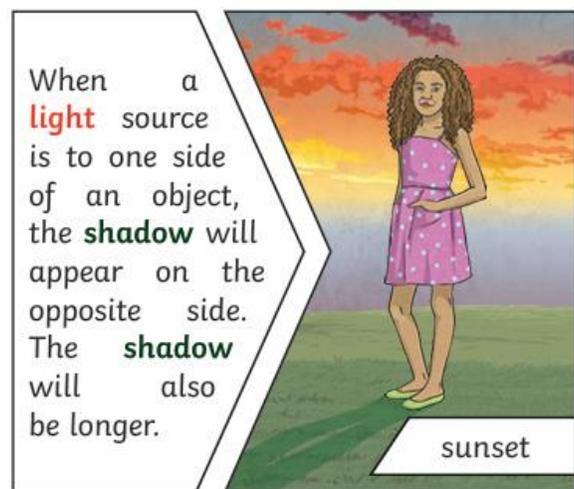
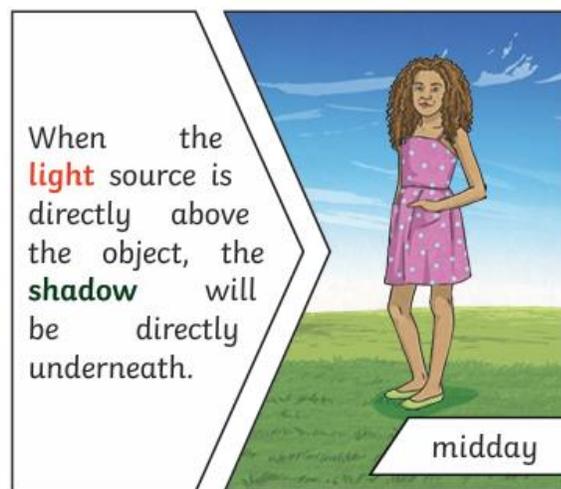
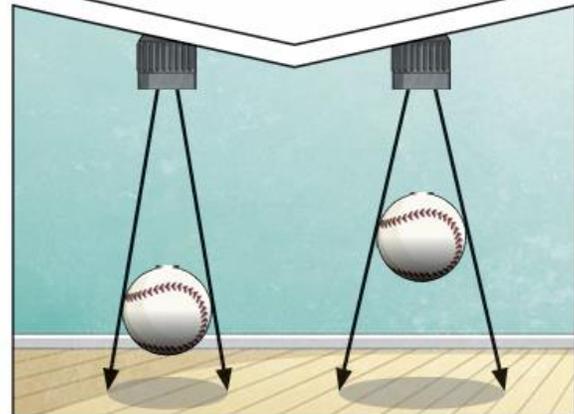


Key Knowledge



The **pupils** control the amount of **light** entering the eyes. If too much **light** enters, then it can damage the **retina**. To help protect the eyes, you can wear a hat with a wide brim and sunglasses with a UV rating.

A **shadow** is caused when **light** is blocked by an **opaque** object. A **shadow** is larger when an object is closer to the **light** source. This is because it blocks more of the **light**.





As a Scientist...

In year 1:

- Observe changes across the four seasons
- Observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.

In year 3:

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

In year 6:

- 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.
- Know how simple optical instruments work, e.g. periscope, telescope, binoculars, mirror, magnifying glass etc.