

Remember
in Year 1,
we learned:

What we
see, hear
and sense
outside,
including
the sun

Year 3

Light

Later, in
Year 6, you
will learn:

To know
light travels
in straight
lines

Knowledge

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to:

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



Key Learning

We see objects because our eyes can sense light. Dark is the absence of light. We cannot see anything in complete darkness. Some objects, for example, the sun, light bulbs and candles are sources of light. Objects are easier to see if there is more light. Some surfaces reflect light. Objects are easier to see when there is less light if they are reflective.

The light from the sun can damage our eyes and therefore we should not look directly at the sun and can protect our eyes by wearing sunglasses or sunhats in bright light.

Shadows are formed on a surface when an opaque or translucent object is between a light source and the surface and blocks some of the light. The size of the shadow depends on the position of the source, object and surface.

Key Vocabulary

light, light source, Sun, sunlight, dangerous