



What is light?

Physics

Year 5

National curriculum objective

- Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines.
- Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain the 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 source 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 object that cast them.

Key Vocabulary

physics	light	refraction
spectrum	rainbow	colour
opaque	transparent	translucent
eye	light source	object
prism	investigate	organ of sight
travels	torch	dark
experiment	reflection	shadows
straight lines	mirror	absorb
cast		

Substantive - subject specific words

Bigger Picture - lesson support words

Key Vocabulary words	Definition
refraction	
reflection	
spectrum	

Written (W) reports, experiments, letter etc. **Discussion (D)** Summary of learning. **Practical (P)** with photo and summary.

Questions to develop knowledge and understanding	Child	Teacher
How can we prove that light travels in straight lines?		
How can we use the knowledge that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye?		
How can we explain how we see things because light travels from the light source, to an object and then to our eyes?		
How can we use our knowledge to explain that shadows have the same shape as the object casting them?		