

Year 3: Light

Natural sources of Light:



The greatest source of light in the Solar System is the sun. The sun creates light and this light creates the daytime on Earth. Light appears naturally in fire, lightning and even in some animals such as fireflies and deep sea creatures.

Artificial sources of light:



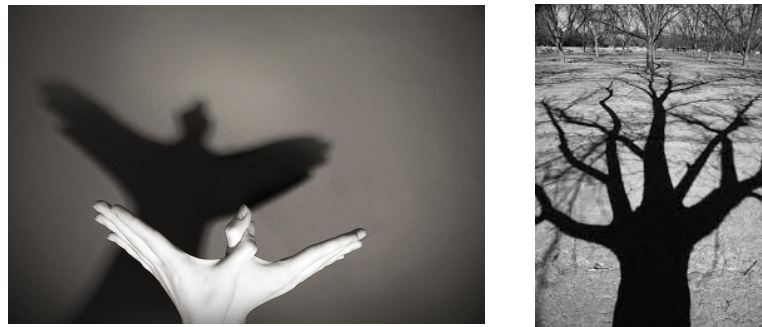
Light can be made using artificial sources. Most of these sources use electricity to create light. Some artificial sources include torches, lightbulbs and even screens such as televisions and mobile phones.

Reflected light:



Light is reflected on many surfaces. Mirrors for example, reflect light which is why we see reflections in them. The moon shines because it reflects the light of the sun.

Shadows:



When light is blocked it forms a shadow. A shadow forms when an opaque, or non-transparent, object blocks light from passing through and reaching a surface on the other side. The brighter the light, the darker the shadow.

Opaque, translucent & transparent

TRANSPARENT
ALL light passes through



TRANSLUCENT
SOME light passes through



OPAQUE
NO light passes through



All objects can be categorised as either opaque, translucent or transparent.

Transparent objects let all light pass through such as glass.

Translucent objects let some light pass through. Such as sunglasses.

Opaque objects are solid and let no light pass through. Objects such as walls, metal and wood.

KEY VOCABULARY



LIGHT SOURCE Where light comes from. This can be natural or artificial..



OPAQUE: An object that no light can pass through.



TRANSLUCENT An object that lets some but not all light, pass through.



TRANSPARENT An object such as glass that lets all light pass through.



SHADOW: When light is blocked it will cast a shadow.



REFLECTION: When light hits a surface and bounces off it in a different direction.

Sun safety



The Sun provides heat and light and is necessary for living things to survive on Earth. Too much ultra violet (UV) light from the Sun can be dangerous. It is not safe to look directly at the Sun, even when wearing sunglasses!