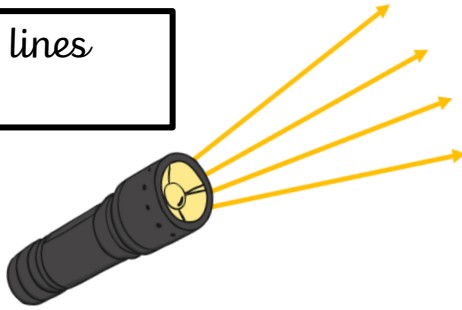


Light travels in straight lines from a light source.



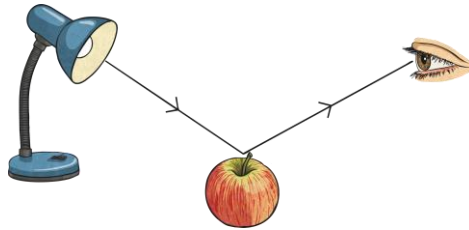
Shadow

Shadows are the same shape as the objects that cast them because light travels in straight lines.



Reflection and How we see

We see things when light enters our eyes. Light may come directly from the source to your eyes (e.g. when looking at a candle) or reflect off objects and into your eyes (e.g. when looking at a book).

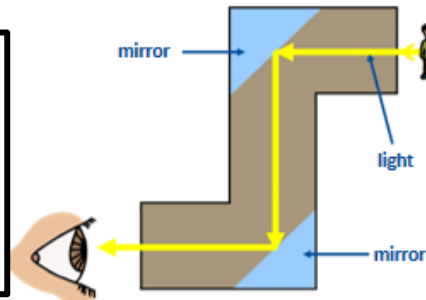


A shadow can change size depending on the distance the object is from the light source. Shadows can also be stretched out or shortened depending on the angle of the light source.

Light reflects off some materials better than others. Smooth, shiny surfaces (e.g. mirrors and polished metals) reflect light well. Dull, dark and black objects absorb most of the light, making them harder to see.

Periscopes

Periscopes use a pair of mirrors to allow you to see round objects easily.



Key Vocabulary

light	A form of energy. It is the brightness that allows us to see things.
optical	Term used when referring to the science of sight and the action of light.
light source	A light source is anything that makes light. Natural light sources include the Sun and stars. Artificial light sources include lamp posts and televisions.
light rays	A light ray or beam of light is a directional projection of light energy radiating from a light source.
absorb	To soak up or take in.
reflect	When light from an object is reflected by a surface, it changes direction. It bounces off the surface at the same angle as it hits it.
shadow	A dark area or shape produced by a body coming between rays of light and a surface.

Scientific Lines of Enquiry

