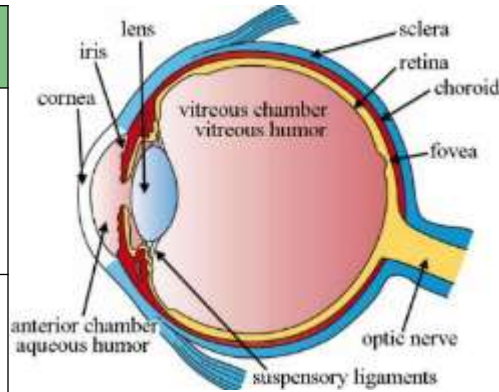


Year 6: How does light travel?

Subject Specific Vocabulary

light wave	One of the characteristics of light is that it behaves like a wave. Light can be defined by its wavelength and frequency. The frequency is how fast the waves vibrate up and down.
light source	Light, or illumination, is a form of energy that travels in waves, like sound. You can find different sources of light, such as a candle or the sun.
concave	Is a lens that curves inwards and reflects light differently as a result.
convex	Is a lens that curves outwards and reflects light differently as a result.
filters	A filter is a transparent material that absorbs some colours and allows others to pass through.
lens	A lens is a curved piece of glass or plastic designed to refract light in a specific way.
retina	The retina is at the back of your eye and it has light-sensitive cells called rods and cones.
cornea	The cornea is thin, clear and covers your eye. It's important because it helps you see by focusing light as it enters the eye.
iris	By opening and closing the pupil, the iris can control the amount of light that enters the eye.
pupil	The pupil can be compared with the shutter of a camera. It is surrounded by the iris which is the coloured part of the eye.



Important facts to know by the end of the light topic:

- Know that light travels in straight lines.
- Understand that because light travels in straight lines objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye.
- Know that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes.
- Know that light travels in straight lines and therefore shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.

A Scientist just like me



Helen Mason

Sticky Knowledge about Light

- ☐ Light will travel in a completely straight line until it hits an object that will reflect it.
- ☐ Space does not have any light. We can see things in space due to light bouncing off of the objects in space.
- ☐ Light doesn't travel as fast when it has to pass through mediums that are different, such as air, water or glass.
- ☐ The light that we see from the sun actually left the sun ten minutes before we see it.
- ☐ Light can be controlled and produced in so many ways. A camera can control the amount of light that comes into the camera lens. We also use light in televisions, medical systems, copy machines, telescopes and satellites.
- ☐ Light is used by plants to convert the light into energy as their 'food'. The process is called 'photosynthesis' and converts carbon dioxide through the energy of the light.