

Year 3: How are shadows formed?

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Interesting Books	Sticky Knowledge about light and dark
reflection	A reflection occurs when a ray of light hits a surface and bounces off.		☐ Black and dark objects absorb light and heat whilst white or light objects reflect it.
shadows	A shadow is formed when an object blocks out the light. The object must be opaque or translucent to make a shadow.		☐ Some objects like glass are transparent which means that light can shine through them.
light source	The main light source for Earth is the Sun. Some other luminous objects give out light, for example, torches, candles and lamps.	A Scientist just like me 	☐ Our main source of light on Earth comes from the Sun. A ray of light travels very fast.
opaque	Opaque objects do not allow light to pass through them, in most cases creating a shadow.		☐ Darkness is made by blocking light from the sun or some other source of light, which makes shadows.
refraction	It is the change of direction of a light ray as it passes through different surfaces, for example, from air to water.	Important facts to know by the end of the light and dark topic	
periscope	A periscope is an instrument people use to look at things from a hidden position.		
nocturnal	If something is nocturnal, it belongs to or is active at night. For example, bats and owls.	• What dark is (in relation to absence of light). • Know that we need light so we can see things. • Know that light can be reflected. • Know how a shadow is formed. • Understand why shadows change shape. • Know the dangers of looking directly at the Sun. • Know how to protect oneself from direct sunlight.	☐ The Sun and other stars, fires, torches and lamps all make their own light and so are examples of sources of light.
orbits	An orbit is a repeating path that one celestial body takes around another.		☐ A mirror is not a source of light, it merely reflects light. Similarly, the Moon is not a source of light because it reflects the light from the Sun.
convex	Convex lenses, also called positive lenses, are lenses that curve outward from the edges to the centre.		☐ Some animals are nocturnal. They are awake at night and can see very well in the dark. Our eyes aren't designed to see at night.
concave	A concave lens is one where the centre of the lens is thinner than the edges.		