

Science—Year 6—Light

Key Knowledge

- Light travels in straight lines.
- The path of light can be altered using mirrors.
- Objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye
- we see things because light travels from a light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes
- shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them because light travels in straight lines.
- Phenomena like rainbows, colours in bubbles and objects in water all occur because of light.

Vocabulary



light	mirror	absorb
light source	shadow	
names of light sources e.g. torch	block	
dark/darkness	direct/ direction	
reflect	transparent	
reflective	opaque	
	translucent	

Key People

Humphry Davy (1778-1829) In 1802 he invented the first electric light. He experimented with electricity and invented an electric battery. When he connected wires to his battery and a piece of carbon, the carbon glowed, producing light.



Isaac Newton (1643-1727) discovered that prisms could disassemble and reassemble white light, and described the phenomenon in his book Opticks.



Prism splitting white light into a rainbow

