Year 6 Autumn 2 Science - Light

Key Knowledge and skills

- Recognise that they need light in order to see things & that dark is the absence of light.
- Notice that light is reflected from surfaces.
- Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous & that there are ways to protect their eyes.
- Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by a solid object.
- Find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change
- Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines.
- Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye
- Explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes.
- Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.

Key Vocabulary

Eyes – Globular organs of sight in the head of humans and vertebrate animals.
Light – The natural agent that stimulates sight and makes things visible.
Light source – Something that provides light, whether it be a natural or artifical source of light (e.g. the sun, a torch).
Rainbow – An arch of colours visible in the sky, caused by the refraction and dispersion of the sun's light by rain or other water droplets in the atmosphere.
Reflection – The throwing back by a body or surface of light, heat or sound without absorbing it.
Refraction – The bending of light as it passes from one substance to another with the bending caused by the difference in density between two substances.
Shadow – A dark area or shape produced by a body coming between rays of light and a surface.
Spectrum – A band of colours, as seen in rainbows, produced by separation of the components of light by their different degrees of refraction.

Do you remember learning?

Your investigational skills from Forces in year 5

Key ideas







