upper Key Stage 2: Light

Straight lines	Lines that go from one point to another without a bend.
Light rays	A visible column light.
Light source	An object that makes its own light
Absence of light	When there is no light source and so it is dark.
Transparent	Describes objects that let light travel through them easily, meaning you can see through the object.
Translucent	Describes objects that let some light through, but scatters the light so we can't see through them properly.
Opaque	Describes objects that do not let any light pass through them.
Shiny	When an item has a smooth, glossy surface.
Matt	A dull and often flat surface.
Surface	The outside part or uppermost layer of something.
Shadow	An area of darkness where light has been blocked.
Reflection	When light bounces off a surface, changing the direction of a ray of light.
Mirror	A surface, typically of glass coated with a metal amalgam, which reflects a clear image.
periscope	An apparatus consisting of a tube attached to a set of mirrors of prisms, by which an observer (typically in a submerged submarine or behind a high obstacle) can see things that are otherwise out of sight.

What are the colours of the spectrum?

Isaac Newton shone a light through a transparent prism, separating out light into the colours of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet) –the colours of the spectrum. All the colours together merge and make visible light.



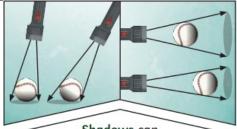
Alhazen

Abū Ali al-Ḥasan Ibn al-Haytham al-Baṣrī (965-1040), known in European Middle Ages by the name of Alhazen. He was actually a scholar of many disciplines: Mathematics, physics, mechanics, astronomy, philosophy and medicine. He was one of the senior most members of the Muslim scholars' trio during 10th -11th centuries.

Ibn al-Haytham was a prolific writer. According to his own testimony, he wrote 25 works on mathematical sciences, 44 works on (Aristotelian) physics and metaphysics. His most famous book in Arabic was on optics. It is seven volumes, with experimental and

mathematical study of the properties of light. Ibn al-Haytham, devised special experiments for various types of lights: Sunlight, twilight/morning light, reflected light from polished surfaces and from opaque bodies, refracted/transmitted light. He went on to discover that light always appears to travel in straight lines.

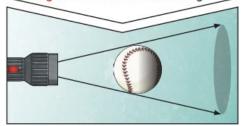
Shadows



Shadows can

also be elongated or shortened depending on the angle of the light source. A shadow is also larger when the object is closer to the light source. This is because it blocks more of the light.

A shadow is always the same shape as the object that casts it. This is because when an opaque object is in the path of light travelling from a light source, it will block the light rays that hit it, while the rest of the light can continue travelling.



Light

We need light to be able to see things. Light waves travel out from sources of light in straight lines. These lines are often called rays or beams of light.

Light from the sun travels in a straight line and hits the chair. The light ray is then reflected off the chair and travels in a straight line to the girl's eye, enabling her to see the chair.

