Brooklands Primary School

Knowledge Organiser - Science: Year 3 Light

Key ideas and information

Light is needed in order to see things and darkness is the absence of light.

Light sources can be natural or man-made.

The Sun is our most important source of light. It also provides warmth and allows plant growth.

The Sun's ultraviolet rays can be dangerous. We can prevent Sun damage to the skin and eyes e.g. through sun cream, sunglasses, long sleeves, hats etc.

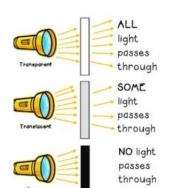
Depending how much light can pass through them, objects can be opaque, transparent or translucent.

Light reflects from a mirror and travels in straight lines. Reflective surfaces are smooth, flat and shiny. When light rays hit a rough surface, they scatter in all different directions, so it doesn't reflect well.

Shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object.

A shadow takes the shape of the object which is blocking the light.

When a light source is brought closer to an object, more light will be blocked so the shadow will get bigger.







<u>Light</u> - Light is a source of illumination, whether a	Opaque - Light cannot pass through an opaque
natural one (like the sun) or an artificial one (like	object/you cannot see through it.
your lamp).	<u>Translucent</u> - Some light can pass through a
	translucent object/you can see through it, but not
<u>Darkness</u> – The absence of light.	completely.
	<u>Transparent</u> – A transparent object does not block
	or absorb any light/you can see right through it.
<u>Shadow</u> - A shadow is a dark shape that is formed	Mirror – A smooth, flat, shiny surface that forms
when an object blocks a source of light.	images by reflecting light.
<u>Light source</u> - Any natural or man-made object	Energy – A source of power for a human or other
which creates or gives out light.	living creature.
Reflection - Your reflection is the image you see in	Absorb – If a surface absorbs light, it takes it in
the mirror when light bounces back to your eyes.	rather than reflecting it back.
Reflective – A reflective surface is a surface that	<u>Ultra-violet light</u> - Invisible rays that are part of the
reflects light. Reflective clothes help you to be	energy that comes from the Sun and can damage
more visible in the dark when a light source is	the skin and eyes.
present.	

Working scientifically and scientific enquiry skills

What is the difference between day and night? Research using secondary sources to find patterns.

Do all surfaces reflect light? Use a comparative test to classify different materials.

The nearer the object is to the light source the bigger the shadow. Use a comparative test to exemplify this statement.

