



Endpoints for Science

Year 6 – Light Theory



In this topic, we will be learning about the way light behaves, travelling in straight lines from a source or reflector into the eye.

What I know and can explain

Light waves travel in a straight line from the light source to an object

Light waves travel faster than sound waves

Light speed is nearly 300 million metres per second, the fastest thing in the universe

Reflected light bounces off in a straight line at an angle equal to the angle of impact

Light waves in diagrams are drawn as straight lines with arrowheads that show the direction of travel.

As a light source moves further away from an object, the shadow gets smaller because the object blocks less light coming from the source

Specialised equipment is used to take accurate measurements in standard units including light sensors measuring light intensity (lux)

Useful Vocabulary

Beam - A group of light rays that move in the same direction.

Lens - The part of the eye behind the pupil that changes shape to finely focus light.

Light meter - A device used to measure light intensity in lux

Light source - Something that produces light. It can be natural, such as the Sun, or artificial, such as a light bulb

Light wave - The wave-like way in which a ray of light moves in a straight line

Ray - A narrow beam of light

Reflect - To bounce off a surface

Spectrum - A band of colours produced when white light is separated

Wavelength - The distance between two identical points on a light wave