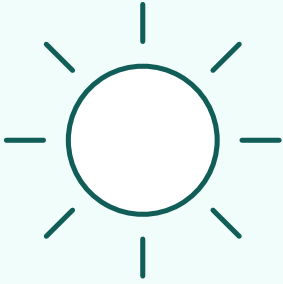


Light and Shadows

5th Grade

How light travels, and why shadows are the shape they are.



Light travels in straight lines from a source. A shadow is simply the space light could not reach.

- Light travels in straight lines until something changes its path.
- Opaque objects block it completely — a sharp shadow.
- Translucent objects let some through — a faint shadow.
- Transparent objects let it nearly all through — almost no shadow.
- Reflection bounces light off a surface at the same angle it hit.
- Refraction bends light as it passes into water or glass.

LOOK FOR IT

A straw looks broken in a glass of water. That is refraction, not a broken straw.

Move the source closer and the shadow gets bigger. Move the object closer to the wall and it gets sharper.