

Knowledge Organiser: Year 3 Autumn Term

Key Learning

- We see objects because our eyes can sense light. Dark is the absence of light. We cannot see anything in complete darkness. Objects are easier to see if there is more light.
- Some objects, for example, the sun, light bulbs and candles are sources of light.
- Some surfaces reflect light. Objects are easier to see when there is less light if they are reflective.
- The light from the sun can damage our eyes and therefore we should not look directly at the sun and can protect our eyes by wearing sunglasses or sunhats in bright light.
- Shadows are formed on a surface when an opaque or translucent object is between a light source and the surface and blocks some of the light.
- The size of the shadow depends on the position of the source, object and surface.

Prior learning:

- Explore how things work. (Nursery – Light)
- Talk about the differences in materials and changes they notice. (Nursery – Light)
- Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside. (Reception – Light)
- Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense. (Y1 - Animals, including humans)
- Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials. (Y1 – Materials)

Light

Common Misconceptions

Some children may think...

- we can still see even where there is an absence of any light
- our eyes 'get used to' the dark
- the moon and reflective surfaces are light sources
- a transparent object is a light source
- shadows contain details of the object, such as facial features on their own shadow
- shadows result from objects giving off darkness

Key Vocabulary

Light	A natural agent that makes things visible
light source	Something that makes light
dark	When there is no light
absence of light	When there is no light
transparent	Can be seen through clearly
translucent	Some light passes through. Can't see clearly through it.
opaque	No light passes through. Can't see through at all.
shiny	Has a smooth, glossy surface
matt	Not glossy and does not reflect light
surface	The outside layer of something
shadow	When light is blocked by an opaque object
reflect	When light bounces off a surface and changes direction
mirror	A smooth surface that forms a reflection
sunlight	The light from the sun
dangerous	Likely to cause harm or injury