

Name.....

Science Comprehension



Light and Shadows

The Sun, stars, fires, torches and lamps are all sources of **light**. Without light we wouldn't be able to see things and everywhere would be dark. Darkness is the absence of light. Sometimes the light that shines on an object comes directly from the source, but it is also often reflected from other surfaces. Some surfaces (such as mirrors) reflect light very well and (because they are flat) a very clear image can be seen in them. If the surface is not flat the reflected image will be distorted.

The light from the Sun is very strong and you should NEVER look at it directly. You could seriously damage your eyes!

Shadows are formed when light (which travels in straight lines) is blocked by an opaque (or solid) object. As the relative position of the Sun changes during the day so do the shadows. The shadows at dawn and dusk are much longer than those during the middle of the day. Remember that it is the Earth that is actually moving and not the Sun.

1. Name five sources of light.

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2. Name two reasons why the reflection seen in a mirror is very clear.

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3. Why should you never look directly at the Sun?

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4. How is a shadow formed?

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Answers

1. The Sun, stars, fires, torches and lamps.
2. Because the surface is very good at reflecting light and they are flat.
3. It is very strong and it can damage your eyes.
4. A shadow is formed when the light from a source (which travels in straight lines) is blocked by a solid (or opaque) object.