

SCIENCE STARTERS

Light





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Light Is Everywhere!



You are camping with your family. As the sun sets, faces glow in the campfire's light. Far off, the moon shines on the lake's **surface**.

Later, your flashlight
guides you to your tent.
All these lights make
camping possible!



What Is Light?



Light is all around us! It bounces off of things and reaches our eyes so we can see.



It comes from
light sources
such as the sun and
electric lamps.



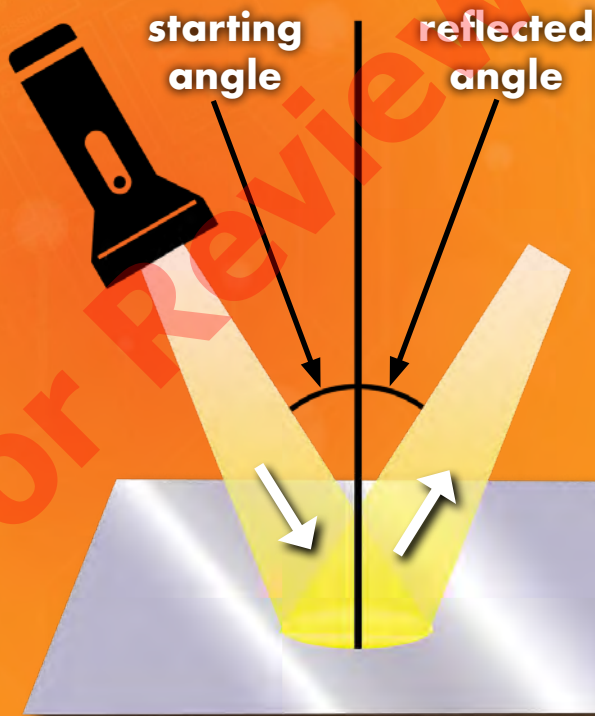


Light is made up of **particles** of **energy** that are too small for us to see. They move in waves.



Light **reflects** off of objects. It hits something at an **angle** and bounces back at the same angle.

Equal Angles of Reflection



Measuring Shadows

You can see for yourself how light changes shadows!

What you will need:

- a clear plastic food container
- a rock
- chalk

1. Find some space on a sidewalk or driveway.
2. Go out early in the morning and put your container and your rock on the pavement.
3. Trace the objects' shadows in chalk on the pavement.
4. Go back to your objects in the afternoon. Trace your objects' shadows again. Are they longer or shorter?
5. Trace your objects' shadows one last time just before the sun sets. Do you notice anything different?
6. Compare the length, shape, and look of the shadows. Did you see a difference in the kind of shadow the container cast and the kind of shadow the rock cast?

