

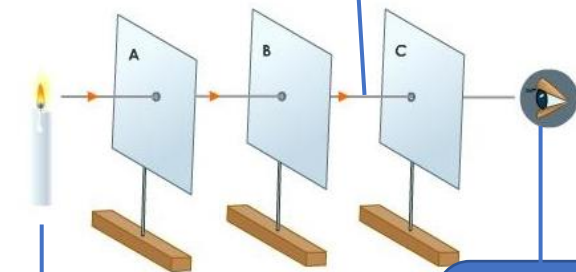
Light – Year 6 Physics

Key vocabulary

light source	A natural or artificial source of light.
iris	The coloured part of the eye
retina	The sensitive part at the back of the eye that sends signals to the brain about what is seen
phenomenon	Something that happens or can be seen, especially in nature or science. It can be an event, a fact, or a situation that we can observe and study, like a rainbow or an earthquake.
refraction	When light bends as it passes from one material to another, like from air into water or glass.
Spectrum	A band of colours or types of light that appear when light is split up.
light ray	Each line of light travelling in a straight line from its place of origin.
reflective	A surface that allows light or heat to bounce off it
shadow	A dark area created where light from a light source is blocked by an object. The object blocking the light will be opaque or translucent.

Light travels in a straight line:

We can use an arrow to represent the path of the light.



Light source

We see light from the light source when it enters our eyes.

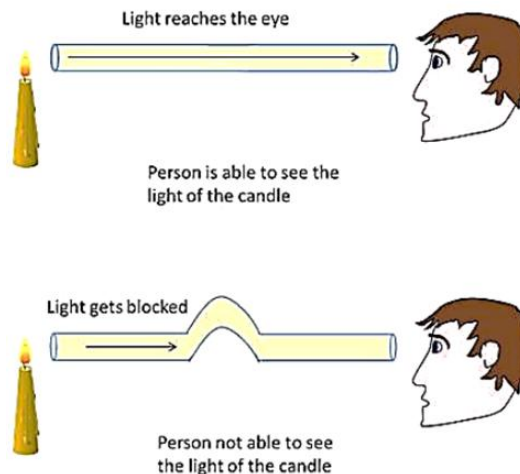
Significant scientists

Ibn al-Haytham
Alhazen
(965-1040)

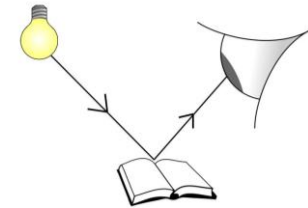


Ibn was an Iranian mathematician, astronomer and physicist. He was the pioneer of modern optics. He carried out experiments with pinhole cameras and candles and explained how the image is formed by rays of light travelling in straight lines.

Light may come directly from a light source.



For objects that are not a light source, light must be reflected from the object into our eye for us to see the object:



Shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them:

