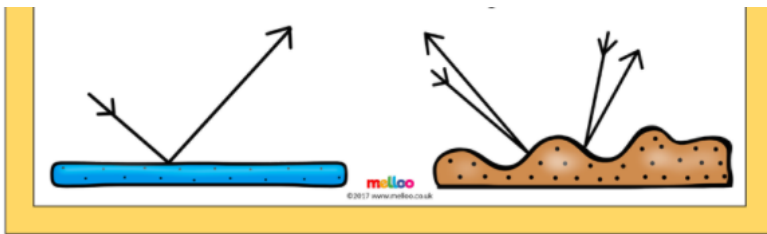


Science Year 5/6 Light

Lesson 2 Reflection

If possible you need a light source such as a torch, a mirror and a piece of card for the practical activity.

Reflection is when light bounces off a surface. Smooth, shiny surfaces reflect light differently to rough and bumpy surfaces.



TASK 1: Use your torch to find some materials which reflect light.

If you don't have a mirror you could experiment with tin foil or clear plastic. Try positioning the mirror and light source differently and see what you notice about the reflected light.



Vocabulary

Reflection

Angle of incident

Angle of reflection

Light ray

How Is Light Reflected?

Reflection is when light bounces off a surface, changing the direction of a ray of light. All objects reflect light; smooth and shiny surface reflect all the rays of light at the same angle, rather than scattering the rays of light like rough or dull surfaces.

The light ray that hits the mirror or other object is described as the incident ray, and the ray of light that bounces off is known as the reflected ray.



TASK 2: Try the reflection activity sheet available on the school website. You need a torch or other light source, card with a slit cut in to allow the light through, a mirror, coloured pens. **You don't need to use a protractor** but after you have had a go at drawing the reflection lines you should be able to notice that the reflected rays (that you have drawn) are at the same angle as the incident rays (as in the diagram above).

If you don't have a mirror to use you could try drawing where you predict where the reflected rays of light would be from what you have read above.