Science – Light – Year 6 – Autumn 1

Vocabulary Top Ten:

blood vessels	a tube carrying blood in the body
opaque	something you are not able to see through
optician	a person who tests people's eyesight
pupils	the opening in the centre of the eye
reflect	to send back light from a surface
retina	a layer of cells at the back of the eye ball
shadow	the dark shape made when something blocks light from a light source
source	the place where something comes from
translucent	something that allows some light to travel through it
transparent	Something that allows light to travel through it

Light Reflecting

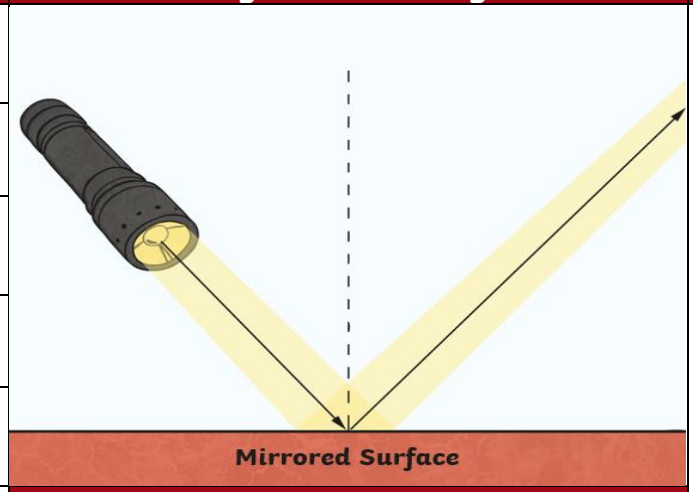
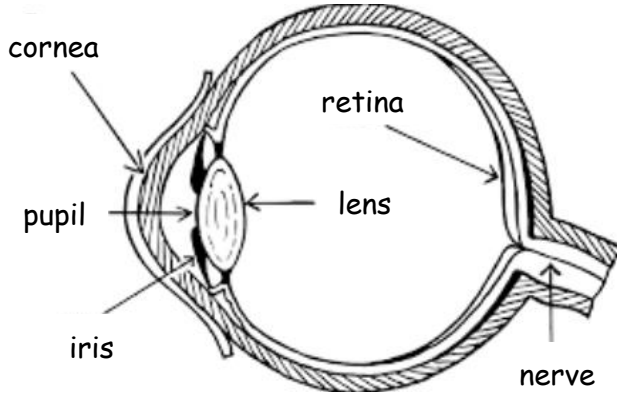


Diagram of a Human Eye



Key Facts:

1. When light hits an object, it is reflected and enters our eyes, this is how we see the object.
2. The pupils in our eyes change size to let more light in, when it's dark, or less light in when it's bright.
3. Inside the eye is a lens which focuses the light onto a surface at the back of the eyeball.
4. This surface is called the retina and is made up of special cells which detect light and send messages to our brain, allowing us to see.

When we have our eyes tested, an optician shines a light into our eye and uses a magnifying lens to show the blood vessels on the surface of the retina and the light-sensitive cells.

Light travels in straight lines.

Completely smooth surfaces like a mirror will reflect light in a specific direction.

Rougher surfaces scatter light in many different directions, this is called a diffuse reflection.

Light travels in straight lines, when it hits an object the light is blocked creating a shadow.

