

Year Six Science knowledge organiser—Light



<u>Key vocabulary</u>	
Light	A form of energy that travels in a wave from a light source.
Light source	An object that makes it own light.
Reflection	When light bounces off a surface. This changes the direction of the ray of light.
Reflected ray	A ray of light that has bounced back after hitting a surface.
Refraction	When light bends as it passes from one medium to another. E.g. Light bends when it moves from air into water.
Shadow	An area of darkness where light has been blocked.
Transparent	An object that lets light through easily. You can see through the object.
Translucent	An object that lets some light through. The object scatters the light meaning that we cannot see through the object properly.
Opaque	An object that does not let any light pass through

Refraction

Refraction is the bending of light (it also happens with sound, water and other waves) as it passes from one transparent substance into another. This bending by refraction makes it possible for us to have lenses, magnifying glasses, prisms and rainbows.



We need light to be able to see things.
Light travels in waves out from
sources of light in straight lines.





Reflection

When light rays from light sources hit objects, they bounce off. Most surfaces are rough when you look at them closely. This means light rays bounce off in many different directions and angles. The light that bounces off is called reflected light.