## Where do shadows come from?

Light comes from a light source, reflects off the object and goes into the eye.

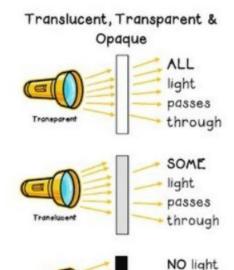


Light rays travel in a straight line.

Shiny materials reflect light beams better than non-shiny materials.

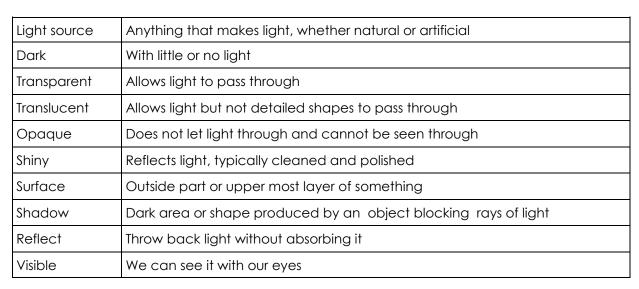


White light is made of a spectrum of colours with different wavelengths: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet.



passes

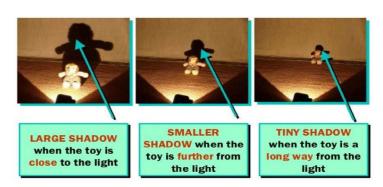
through





Shadows form when light is blocked by an object.

This is because light can only travel in straight lines. It cannot bend. If an object gets in the light's path, a shadow will form



The earth spins once on its axis every 24 hours.

As places on Earth spin into sunlight, the sun appears to rise in the East and travel across the sky until it sets in the West.

As the height of the sun above the horizon increases during the morning, shadows cast by opaque, vertical objects (reduce until they are smallest at midday, when the sun is highest.

Our shadows lengthen again through the afternoon as the sun's height in the sky reduces.