

Light Topic Teacher Masters: Table of Contents

Introductory Letter to Families

Welcome to the Light Topic1

Family Links

Sources of Light (Lesson 2)2

Light and Materials (Lesson 4)3

Light and Shadows (Lesson 6)4

Dear Families,

Our class is beginning the Science Companion™ topic about light. Although we live in the presence of natural and artificial light 24 hours a day, we may not think about what light is, how it moves, and how it interacts with different materials. Your child's study of light in the classroom will focus on how light acts in relation to objects and materials.

During the Light topic, the children will:

- Identify sources of light.
- Investigate how light travels until it hits something.
- Observe how light interacts with materials.
- Learn that materials can block light, let some light through, or let most light through.
- Discover that some materials tend to reflect more light than others.
- Investigate how shadows are produced.
- Explore prisms and learn how to use them to create rainbows.

From time to time, your child will bring home Family Links handouts to give you information about what your child is learning and offer suggestions about how you can help.

The Light topic will encourage students to develop a new understanding of light and its behavior. We hope the children will bring their discoveries and enthusiasm home, inviting you to learn alongside them—asking questions, discussing their work, and sharing their adventures in science.

Sincerely,

Name: _____ Date: _____

Family Link with Science

Sources of Light

As part of our study of light, today in science class we talked about light sources and used flashlights to explore a dark fort that we made.

With a family member, look for sources of light both inside and outside your home. List as many of these sources of light as possible.

Source of the light	What Does the Light Look Like?

Please complete this assignment for science class.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Family Link with Science

Light and Materials

In science class we tested materials to find out whether they block light or let light through. Try testing different objects at home.

What did you find that blocks light?

What did you find that lets some light pass through?

What did you find that lets most light pass through?

Please complete this assignment for science class.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Family Link with Science

Light and Shadows

Today in science class, we explored light and shadows. To continue the exploration, use a flashlight if you have one. If not, other lights can work too.

With a family member, make shadow puppets.

1. Hold your hand near a wall and shine a light on it.
2. Make rabbit ears. Hold your hand in a fist with two fingers up.
3. Try to make a dog. Hold your hand with your palm facing you. Your thumb is the dog's ear and your pinky finger is the dog's mouth.
4. Come up with your own animal shapes. Remember these shapes so you can share them with your class.

Think: What causes a shadow?

Please complete this assignment for science class.