

Year 6: What is the fastest thing known to man, and something which our very existence depends upon?

How light travels

- Light travels in rays (waves).
- Light rays do not need particles to travel through.
- They can travel through space and a vacuum (a space with no matter particles).
- Light rays travel in straight lines.
- Light waves travel faster than

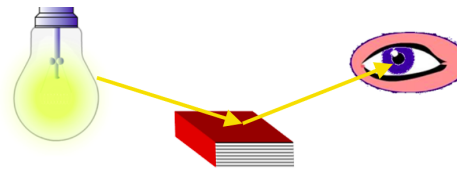
How does your eye see direct light such as a light bulb?



Light travels in a straight line directly into your eye.

Light travels from a light source.

How does your eye see objects that do not produce a light of their own?



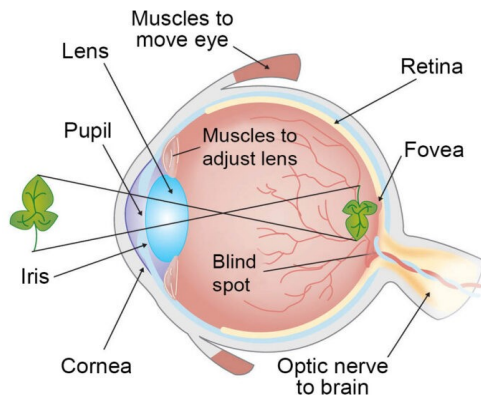
Light from the light source strikes the book and some of the light is reflected into your eye.

Light travels from a source, then reflects off an object and into the eye.

Did you know?

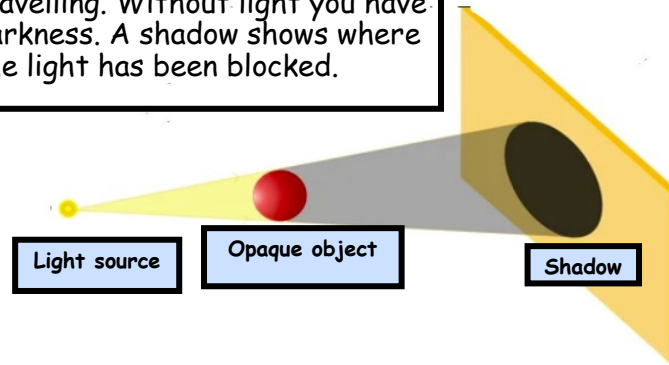
As the front of your eyeball is curved, it bends the light as it enters the eye. This creates an upside down image on your retina. Our brains then turn the image the correct way up.

A team of neuroscientists have found that the human brain can process entire images that the eye sees in as little as 13 milliseconds!



Shadow

When an object blocks the light rays, it stops the light from travelling. Without light you have darkness. A shadow shows where the light has been blocked.



CRC Article 17:

All children have the right to find out information as long as it is safe.



Vocabulary

cornea	The clear and firm outside layer of the eye.
eyeball	An organ that allows an animal to see.
fovea	A specialised area of the retina that has the highest visual activity.
iris	A part of the eye that relaxes and contracts to control how much light enters the eye.
lens	A clear part of the eye. The lens focuses light onto the retina.
light	A form of energy.
light rays	This is how light travels from the source.
optic nerve	Bundles of neurons that carry impulses from the eye to the brain.
pupil	The black part of your eye. It is a hole that allows light to enter the eye.
retina	The lining at the back of the eye which contains light receptors.