**Year 1 Science – Light**

Ideas to support your child with Science learning

You could begin this topic by watching the following video on BBC Bitesize which introduces children to the topic of light <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z3mb9qt>

**Sources of light:**

* Children could go on a hunt around the house and outside looking for objects that give off light.
* Children could take pictures of these or write a list of the things they find.
* Can you sort the sources of light into natural and man-made? E.g. the sun is a natural source of light, a torch is a man-made source of light.
* Explain that we see sources of light because the light travels from the source to our eyes.
* Children could explore reflection and what happens when you shine a torch onto reflective objects such as a metal spoon.
* Children could make a light box and experiment with different colours and light.

**Opaque and Transparent**

To help us understand more about light we can explore the meaning of opaque and transparent.

Opaque – cannot be seen through (light does not shine through)

Transparent – can be seen through (light can shine through)

* Using a torch, children could go around the house and find objects that are transparent and opaque by shining the light on them.
* Can you see the light from the torch through a cupboard door?
* Children could investigate which material would be best to use to make curtains. Encourage them to consider what properties the material needs to have. If it is transparent will it be a good material to use? If it is a weak material will it be good to use?

**Shadows:**

* Children could go outside in the morning and draw around a shadow and then go back outside in the afternoon and draw around the shadow again. Discuss how the shadows have changed places due to where the sun is.
* Children could make shadow puppets and explore how to make the shadows larger and smaller.
* Children could do some shadow drawing of different household objects or toys.